

1926

Gulf Annual Conference Journal



December, 1926

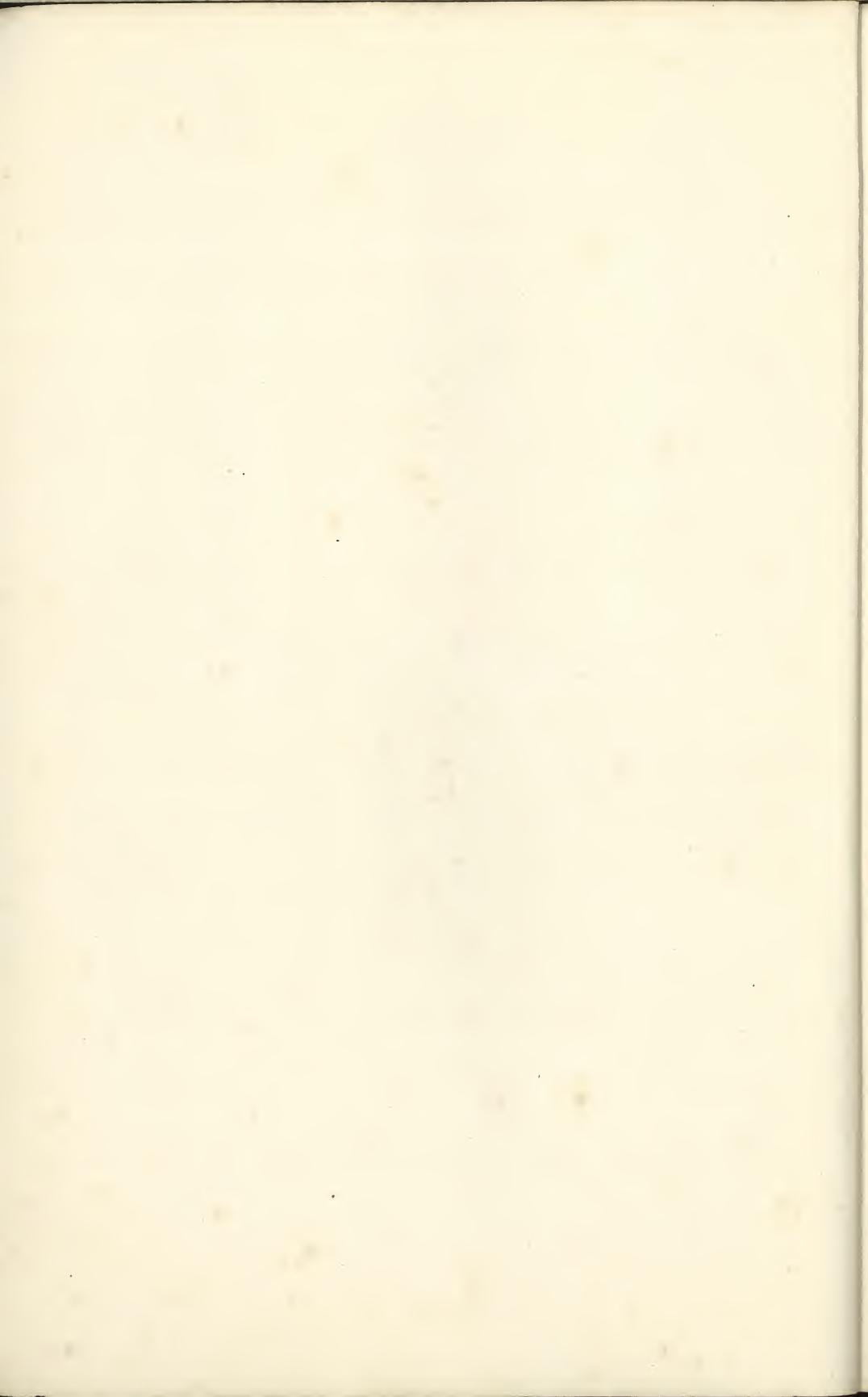
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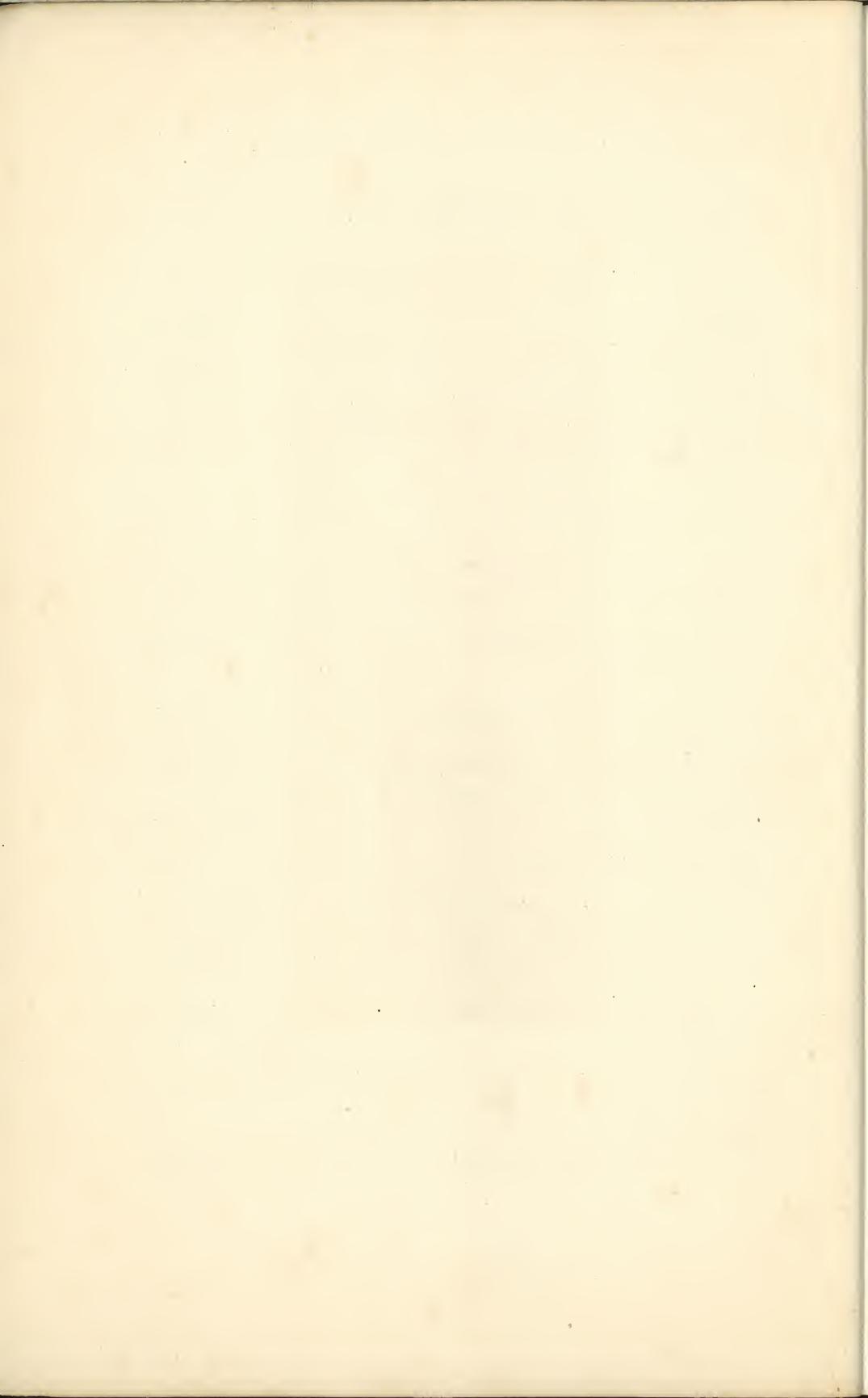
Rev. J. Henry Bowdon





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Bishop Ernest Linn Waldorf

RESIDENT BISHOP

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

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OF THE
Gulf Annual Conference
OF THE
TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
HELD AT
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS
December 1st to 5th, 1926

VOLUME VII—NUMBER 3

BISHOP E. L. WALDORF.....Presiding
Kansas City, Mo.
H. C. LEONARD.....Secretary
Houston, Texas



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CONFERENCE CHRONOLOGICAL ROLL

YEAR	NAME	NATIVITY	ADDRESS
	Culpepper, M. M.		
1920	Beck, P. W.	Missouri	San Antonio, Tex.
1923	Cassells, Delos	Mississippi	Welsh, La.
1906	Corbin, Bruce B.	New York	Gloster, Miss.
1918	Denny, J. S.	Missouri	Lake Charles, La.
1903	Elliott, Chas. L.	Ceylon	Woodville, Tex.
1910	Faulk, H. K.	Louisiana	Lyford, Tex.
1891	Gower, L. E.	Illinois	Lake Charles, La.
1911	Harper, G. L.	Mississippi	Houston, Tex.
1902	Leonard, H. C.	Ohio	
1898	Lively, J. W.	Arkansas	Houston, Tex.
1880	Loy, F. W.	Illinois	Marshall, Tex.
1920	Mann, W. C.	Texas	Terra Haute, Ind.
1922	Manning, S. J.	Missouri	Hallsville, Tex.
1908	Pohl, H. H. E.	Illinois	Marshall, Tex.
1923	Powell, E. A.	Illinois	Brownsville, R.F.D.1
1907	Pynes, R. T.	Alabama	Sebastian, Tex.
1886	Robinson, C. R.	Michigan	San Juan, Tex.
1900	Rodgers, C. W.	Iowa	Jennings, La.
1892	Shrode, T. J.	Indiana	Welsh, La.
1890	Stokes, W. T.	Alabama	Lutcher, La.
1911	Swanson, R. G.	Texas	Port Arthur, Tex.
1900	Van Valkenburgh, W. B.	Arkansas	Keatchie, La.
1906	Ward, W. R.	Missouri	Texas City, Tex.
1905	Weldon, R. L.	Louisiana	Port Arthur, Tex.
1901	Yockey, S. H.	Pennsylvania	DeQuincey, La.
			Lake Charles, La.

PROBATIONERS

YEAR	NAME	NATIVITY	ADDRESS
1925	Culpepper, C. Ross		San Antonio, Tex.
1925	Irvin, J. L.	Illinois	Loranger, La.
1922	Jongema, Henry	Holland	Garrett Bible Inst.
1924	Carrington, Alton		Logansport, La. R.4
1924	LaGrone, Daniel X.	Louisiana	Shreveport, La.
			R. 2, Box 335
1925	Potts, E. W.		Boston University
1926	Lyons, Luther		Flora, La.
1926	Hughes, C. P.		Hallsville, Tex.

*(This entire roll was transferred into the Southern Conference on December 5, 1926).

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OFFICERS OF THE SOUTHERN CONFERENCE

Bishop E. L. Waldorf.....	Presiding Bishop
Harry C. Leonard.....	Secretary
J. F. Sarner.....	Statistician
L. J. Rode.....	Treasurer

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE BOARDS, 1926-1927

CONFERENCE BOARD OF SUNDAY SCHOOLS

The District Superintendents, ex-officio.

Brenham District—O. F. Kattner, Lee Scott.

Lake Charles District—W. R. Ward, W. R. Shepherd.

San Antonio District—H. W. Bahler, E. W. Archer.

Austin District—H. Sandstrom, Arthur Ryden.

CONFERENCE BOARD OF STEWARDS

To Serve One Year

I. W. Witt, O. C. Raeke, R. L. Weldon, O. E. Linstrum, S. J. Manning

To Serve Two Years

August Didzum, G. C. Brannies, H. K. Faulk, F. L. Hagberg,
H. C. Leonard.

To Serve Three Years

Phil Deschner, R. T. Pynes, P. J. Anderson, W. B. Van Valkenburgh.

BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION

The District Superintendents, E. F. Schuesler, President, H. C. Leonard, Secretary, E. C. Willard, Treasurer (Welsh, La.), August Didzun, L. C. Holze (Riesel, Texas), R. L. Weldon, L. G. Williamson (Army Y. M. C. A., San Antonio, Texas), J. F. Sarner, August Free (Austin, Texas), John Wiedermann (Mason, Texas).

CONFERENCE COMMISSION ON FINANCE

The District Superintendents.

Austin District—F. A. Lunberg, Alexius Johnson, Arthur Thompson.

Brenham District—A. A. Leifeste, W. C. J. Marquart, A. Niebuhr.

Lake Charles District—H. K. Faulk, H. G. Patterson, A. B. Chenier.

San Antonio District—R. S. Hollingsworth, L. J. Rode, Henry Schlagel

CONFERENCE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

The District Superintendents, ex-officio; the District Missionary Secretaries; the District Epworth League Presidents, ex-officio.

Austin District—Otto Bengston, Tom Lundblad.

Brenham District—C. F. Schmidt, Henry Semler.

Lake Charles District—J. D. Hayes, Frank Jensen.

San Antonio District—Bruno Boetzinger, Dr. M. J. Nichols.

BOARD OF EXAMINERS

F. A. Lundberg, Chairman, Phil Deschner, Registrar, C. W. Rodgers, M. M. Culpepper, W. R. Ward, H. K. Faulk, B. E. Breihan, A. D. Moehle, A. A. Leifeste, J. A. Sarner, O. W. Johnson, F. L. Hagberg.

PREACHER'S AID SOCIETY

Phil Deschner, President; H. C. Leonard, Secretary; W. A. Moers, Treasurer; J. A. Sarner, Vice-President. Finance Committee: Pastors of Collins and Norhill, A. G. Brandt, W. C. J. Marquart, E. E. Draeger, J. A. Sarner.

CONFERENCE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

For One Year—C. R. Robinson, President, A. A. Leifeste, O. W. Johnson.

For Two Years—L. J. Rode, L. E. Gower, W. T. Hagberg.

For Three Years—T. J. Shrode, B. E. Breihan, F. A. Lundberg.

CONFERENCE RELATIONS

One Year—J. A. Traeger, W. Makowski, H. C. Leonard, C. W. Robinson, J. F. Karling.

Two Years—B. E. Breihan, C. F. Bohmfalk, E. J. Anderson; R. T. Pynes, T. J. Shrode.

Three Years—G. T. C. Doerr, Phil Deschner, O. E. Linstrum, R. L. Weldon, S. J. Manning.

GULF CONFERENCE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

One Year—C. R. Robinson, Pres., G. E. Carter, S. O. Scoggins.

Two Years—L. E. Gower, E. W. Archer, B. B. Corbin.

Three Years—H. K. Faulk, H. C. Leonard, C. W. Rodgers.

COMMITTEES

PUBLIC WORSHIP—Pastor and District Superintendent.

RESOLUTIONS—Ben Behrens, W. R. Ward, F. A. Lundberg.

MEMOIRS—R. L. Weldon, Phil Deschner, W. T. Hagberg.

EDUCATION—H. K. Faulk, C. R. Robinson, A. B. Chenier, C. W. Schlechte, G. W. F. Schreiber, J. F. Sarner.

STATE OF THE CHURCH—W. H. Bengston, E. C. Schmitt, R. L. Weldon, M. M. Culpepper, J. F. Karling.

SOCIAL SERVICE—A. S. Kattner, P. W. Beck, O. E. Linstrum.

EVANGELISM—H. Sandstrom, A. C. Peterson, A. W. Tampke, R. L. Weldon, R. T. Pynes.

TRAVELING EXPENSES—G. C. Brannies, T. J. Shrode, J. F. Sarner.

AUDITOR—A. D. Moehle, H. K. Faulk, H. Sandstrom.

HOSPITALS, HOMES AND DEACONESS—W. L. H. Hornung, E. E. Schmidt, W. B. Van Valkenburgh, C. L. Elliott, F. L. Hagberg.

WORLD SERVICE COUNCIL—J. Kleinknecht, W. T. Hagberg, E. C. Willard, A. B. Chenier, M. M. Culpepper, A. G. Elley, H. Schmalz, W. E. Wisseman, H. K. Faulk.

DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS

1. Is this Annual Conference incorporated according to the requirements of the Discipline? It is in a limited way.
2. Who have been received by Transfer, and from what Conferences? M. M. Culpepper, C. Ross Culpepper, St. Louis.
3. Who have been re-admitted? None.
4. Who have been received on credentials, and from what Churches? None..
5. Who have been received on trial? (a) In Studies of First Year: C. P. Hughes, L. Lyons.
6. Who have been continued on trial? (a) In studies of First Year: Henry Jongema, E. W. Potts. (b) In studies of Second Year: Alton Carrington, Daniel X. LaGrone, C. Ross Culpepper.
7. Who have been discontinued? None.
8. Who have been admitted in full membership? (a) Elected and ordained Deacons this year: None. (b) Elected and ordained Deacons previously: None.
9. What members are in the studies of Third Year? (a) Admitted into full membership this year: None. (b) Admitted into full membership previously: None.
10. What members are in studies of Fourth Year? P. W. Beck, J. S. Denny.
11. What members have completed the Conference Course of Study? (a) Elected and ordained Elders this year: None. (b) Elected and ordained Elders previously: None. (c) Elected and ordained Elders under the Seminary Rule: None.'
12. What others have been elected and ordained Deacons? (a) As local preachers: None. (b) Under Missionary Rule: None. (c) Under the Seminary Rule: None.
13. What others have been elected and ordained Elders? (a) As local Deacons: None. (b) Under the Missionary Rule None.
14. Who have been left without appointment to attend one of our Schools? Henry Jongema, E. W. Potts.
15. Was the character of each preacher examined? It was as his name was called in open Conference.
16. Who have been transferred, and to what Conferences? W. E. Blackstock, New Mexico Mission; S. P. Gaskins, Oklahoma; D. L. Jones, Holston; and the entire Conference membership as constituted on December 4, 1926, Southern.
17. Who have died? F. J. Ensign.
18. Who have been located at their own request? None.
19. Who have been located? None.
20. Who have withdrawn? None.
21. Who have been deprived of the Ministerial Office? None.

22. Who have been permitted to withdraw under charges or complaints? None.
23. Who have been expelled? None.
24. What other personal notation should be made? None.
25. Who are the Supernumerary Ministers, and for what number of years, consecutively, has each held this relation? None.
26. Who are the retired Ministers? L. E. Gower, G. L. Harper, J. W. Lively, F. W. Loy, T. J. Shrode, S. H. Yockey, W. T. Stokes.
27. Who have been granted leave of absence? R. L. Weldon.
28. Who are the Triers of Appeals? W. B. Van Valkenburgh, C. L. Elliott, W. L. Froehner, C. W. Schlechte, W. T. Hagberg; alternates: E. E. Schmidt, H. Sandstrom.
29. What is the Annual Report of the Conference Board of Home Missions and Church Extension? See Report.
30. What is the Annual Report of the Conference Board of Foreign Missions? See Report.
31. What is the Statistical Report? See the Statistician's Report.
32. What is the Conference Treasurer's Report? See the Conference Treasurer's Report.
33. (a) What is the aggregate of the Benevolence Collections ordered by the General Conference, as reported by the Conference Treasurer? \$10,069.00. (b) What is the aggregate of the Benevolent Collections ordered by the Annual Conference, as reported by the Conference Treasurer? \$3,129.00.
34. What are the claims on the Conference funds? For Annuity Distribution, 230 years multiplied by the disciplinary rate of \$18.00 per year, \$4,140.00. For necessitous distribution, \$1,000.00. Total, \$5,140.00.
35. (a) What has been received on these claims? From the Book Concern, \$322.00; from Annual Conference investments, \$74.48; from the Chartered Fund, \$40.00; from Pastoral Charges, \$1,717.00; from Board of Pensions and Relief, \$800.00; from other sources, none. Total, \$2,953.48. (b) How has it been applied? (See Report of Stewards).
36. What amount has been apportioned to the Pastoral Charges within the Conference, to be raised for the support of Conference Claimants? \$3,369.00.
37. What amount has been paid by the Conference Treasurer to the Board of Conference Claimants for Connectional Relief?
.....
38. Is there a Conference Sustentation Fund Society, and what is its Report? None.
39. Where are the preachers stationed? (See List of Appointments).
40. Where shall the next Conference be held? Houston, Texas.

APPOINTMENTS

(Supplies in parentheses)

AUSTIN DISTRICT

O. E. Olander, Superintendent, Austin, Texas.

Austin	O. E. Linstrum
Brady and West Sweden.....	(J. Olson)

Dallas:

East Dallas	F. L. Hagberg
Washington Street	W. E. Wissemann
Decker and Manda	E. J. Anderson
Denton and Blue Mound.....	E. E. Schmidt
El Campo and Garwood.....	A. Hanson
Fort Worth.....	Hjalmar Sanstrom
Galveston	Joseph Karling
Georgetown	To be supplied
Kenedy	To be supplied
Taylor and Hutto.....	F. A. Lundberg
Waco	W. T. Hagberg

BRENHAM DISTRICT

H. H. Hopkins, Superintendent, Brenham, Texas.

Alvin and Persland.....	(J. M. Bennington)
Bear Creek, Fairbanks and Rose Hill.....	A. D. Moehle, Addicks
Brenham	G. C. Brannies
Deadwood and Bethel.....	R. G. Swanson, Keatchie, La.

Houston:

Collins Memorial.....	H. C. Leonard
Norhill	A. A. Leifeste
Oakwood	A. S. Kattner
South Houston	(O. R. Fisher)
Hughes Springs, Jefferson and Chappel Hill.....	(C. M. Hollett)
Industry and Haw Creek.....	W. Makewski
Lexington and Caldwell.....	G. T. C. Doerr
La Porte and Morgans Point.....	To be supplied
Lufkin Circuit	W. C. Mann
Marshall	S. J. Manning
Meiers Settlement, Halsburg and Aleman.....	J. W. A. Witt, R. 2, Riesel, Texas.

BRENHAM DISTRICT—(Continued)

Noonday and Wesley.....	C. P. Hughes
Paige	To be supplied
Perry and Marlin.....	C. W. Schlechte
Polk Circuit	(J. F. Nunley)
Riesel	O. F. Kattner
Rock Hill	(C. H. LaGrone)
Rutersville and Post Oak.....	To be supplied
Sealy, Peters and Patterson.....	W. H. Bengston
Texas City	W. B. Van Valkenburgh
Waterman Circuit	(W. M. Johnson)

LAKE CHARLES DISTRICT

C. W. Rodgers, Superintendent, Welsh, La.

Auburn, Gloster and Loranger.....	D. H. Cassells and J. L. Irvin
Bayou Chene.....	(H. E. Kingsland)
De Quincy.....	(R. L. Weldon)
Elton	(Mrs. Ruth W. Oveson)
Ebenezer and Basile.....	(S. B. Nelson)
Jennings	C. R. Robinson
Iowa.....	(S. H. Yockey)
Kinder	To be supplied
Lake Charles	H. K. Faulk
Lutcher	(T. J. Shrode)

New Orleans:

Eighth Street	Ben Behrens, 830 Eighth St.
First Italian	(A. Palmisano)
Napoleon Avenue	Phil Deschner, 2524 Napoleon Ave.
Port Arthur	W. R. Ward
Quitman	D. X. LaGrone
Sabine Circuit	To be supplied
Sweet Lake and Gueydon.....	(A. A. Hebert)
Weaver (Flora Post Office).....	Luther Lyones
Welsh	Percy W. Beck
Woodville	J. S. Denny

SAN ANTONIO DISTRICT

J. Hierholzer,	Superintendent, San Antonio, Texas.
Bartlett and Piney.....	A. Didzun
Bracken	G. W. F. Schrieber
Copperas Cove	H. Schmalz
Fashing and Ray Point.....	E. C. Schmidt
Fredericksburg	C. F. Bohmfalk
Freyburg and Schulenberg.....	A. G. Elley, R. 2, Schulenberg
Gonzales and Stierens.....	O. C. Raeke
Hilda and Hoesterville.....	J. Kleinknecht, Mason, Texas
Lyford and Hargill.....	C. L. Elliott
Mason and Art.....	W. F. Froehner
Monthalia	J. A. Traeger, Cost, Texas
Moody	A. W. Tampke
Needville.....	(W. A. Moers)
Orange Grove.....	(W. Sievers)
Point Isabelle.....	To be supplied
Rangerville, Sebastian and South Point.....	E. A. Powell
Rosenberg and Orchard.....	W. L. Hornung
San Antonio:	
Hackberry Street	H. M. Bahler
Trinity	M. M. Culpepper
	Ross Culpepper, Associate Pastor
San Juan and South Point.....	R. T. Pynes
Schertz	A. C. Peterson
Seguin	L. J. Rode

SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS

B. E. Breinham, president Blinn Memorial College, Brenham, Tex.
 F. A. Lundberg, acting president, Texas Wesleyan College, Austin, Tex.
 J. F. Sarner, chaplain Seaman's Bethel, Galveston, Tex.
 O. E. Linstrum, secretary Veteran Fund, Austin, Tex.
 O. E. Olander, financial secretary, Texas Wesleyan College, Austin, Tex.
 R. L. Weldon, on leave of absence.
 O. W. Johnson, on leave of absence.
 Miss Pauline Ebel, deaconess Napoleon Avenue, New Orleans, La.
 E. W. Potts, left without appointment to attend school.
 Henry Jongema, left without appointment to attend school.

Journal of Daily Proceedings

FIRST DAY

San Antonio, Texas, Wednesday, December 1st, 1926.

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Gulf Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church convened Wednesday morning at nine o'clock in the Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church, San Antonio, Texas, with Bishop Ernest L. Waldorf, presiding. Devotional services were conducted by Bishop Charles L. Meade of Denver. Hymn beginning "When I survey the wondrous Cross" was sung. Prayer was led by Bishop Waldorf. Bishop Meade read the account of the Last Supper in the Gospel of John and talked on the subject of "Unity with Christ." The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered by the Bishops.

Roll call. The secretary of the last session called the roll and eighteen answered "present." At the name of F. J. Ensign the Conference stood and was led in prayer.

Organization. The following officers were elected: Secretary, H. C. Leonard; Assistant Secretaries, L. E. Gower and S. H. Yockey; Treasurer, W. R. Ward; Assistants, P. W. Beck and R. L. Weldon; Statistician, C. L. Elliott; Assistants, R. G. Swanson, L. Lyons and C. P. Hughes; Auditor, H. K. Faulk.

Question 2 was called: "Who have been received by transfer and from what Conferences." The Bishop announced the transfers of M. M. Culpepper and C. Ross Culpepper from the St. Louis Conference.

Boards and Committees for this Session. Board and Committees for this session were elected and are the same as the last session with these exceptions: That in the Boards where the name of F. J. Ensign appears W. R. Ward was appointed, and where the name of W. E. Blackstock appears P. W. Beck was appointed; that in the Committees

where the name of F. J. Ensign appears on the Committee of Education, R. G. Swanson was appointed, and on the Committee on Conference Relations H. K. Faulk was appointed, and on the Committee of Home Missions S. H. Yockey was appointed and where the name of W. E. Blackstock appears M. M. Culpepper was appointed.

Question 15 was called: "Was the character of each preacher examined." The character of C. R. Robinson, District Superintendent of the Houston District, was passed and he reported his district.

Merger. The question of the merger of the Conference was brought up and C. W. Rodgers, chairman of the Joint Commission, read the journal of the Joint Commission on Merger. The Conference requested that the Commissions on Merger meet with the Bishops and Cabinets at 3:30 this afternoon to develop and complete the plans for merger.

Question 15 resumed. W. B. Van Valkenburgh, District Superintendent of the Lake Charles District and S. J. Manning of the Rio Grande Valley District, were called, the characters of each passed, and each reported his district.

The character of each of the following was passed and he reported his World Service offerings: E. A. Powell, H. C. Leonard, C. M. Hollett, R. T. Pynes, C. P. Hughes, J. S. Denney, W. R. Ward, M. M. Culpepper and J. M. Bennington, Luther Lyons, R. L. Weldon, S. H. Yockey, C. L. Elliott, H. K. Faulk, T. J. Shrode, R. G. Swanson and L. E. Gower.

A committee consisting of C. W. Rodgers and M. M. Culpepper having been excused to confer with the Southern Conference, reported that their Committee on Merger, Bishop Nuelson and Cabinet, could meet with our like committee at 3:30.

The following were introduced: Rev. M. C. Wilcox and Rev. Geo. S. Miner, retired members of the Foo Chow Conference.

Adjourned with benediction by Bishop Meade.

At the noon hour the Conference was addressed by William C. Hanson, agent of the Book Concern at Kansas City, and Bishop Chas. L. Meade.

At the supper hour addresses were delivered by Bishop John L. Nuelsen and George C. Douglass, agent of the Book Concern.

SECOND DAY

Thursday, December 2, 1926.

Conference was called to order at 9 o'clock. Hymn "O Worship the King" was sung. W. R. Ward led in the responsive reading. Bishop Waldorf spoke from the text, "What do ye more than others?"

The bar of the Conference was placed at the third column.

The Journal of the last session was read and approved.

T. J. Shrode was given charge of the equalization of the transportation costs.

R. T. Pynes was appointed postmaster, agent for the Methodist Review and collector of the Area Headquarter's Fund.

Question 27 was called: "Who have been granted leave of absence." Upon motion of L. E. Gower, R. L. Weldon was granted a year's leave of absence.

A committee consisting of R. T. Pynes and H. C. Leonard, was appointed to represent the Conference on the Joint Board of Stewards.

George C. Douglass, Agent of the Methodist Book Concern, addressed the Conference and presented a check for \$40.00 from the Chartered Fund and a check for \$322.00 from the Book Concern. The same were received and ordered placed with the Conference Board of Stewards.

W. B. Flemming, President of Baker University, was introduced and addressed the Conference.

H. K. Faulk was appointed to confer with Bishop Nuel-

sen and bring in the necessary motion for the action of the Trustees and of the Conference.

By ballot H. C. Leonard was selected to represent the Conference with a five-minute speech Sunday night at the time of the formal merger.

P. W. Beck, H. C. Leonard and M. M. Culpepper were made the Pulpit Supply Committee.

Upon motion of H. C. Leonard the record of the Merger Committee was received and endorsed.

The following were introduced and addressed the Conference: F. W. Mueller, of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, R. J. Faucett of India, representing the Board of Foreign Missions, and Paul J. Kern, pastor of the Travis Park Methodist Episcopal Church, South. B.

By ballot the Conference answered the Bishop's invitation to indicate by the writing of two names upon a slip of paper men desired for District Superintendent. The Bishop explained that this was not an election and would be received as a suggestion.

Question 16 was called: "Who have been transferred, and to what Conference?" The Bishop announced the transfer of S. P. Gaskins to the Oklahoma Conference and Daniel L. Jones to the Holston Conference.

Question 7 was called: "Who have been discontinued?"

Upon motion of C. R. Robinson, E. McClain was discontinued at his own request.

Question 24 was called: "What other personal notation should be made?"

Upon motion of L. E. Gower, proper record of former years of service of S. J. Manning, who had served for a time in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, after he had been a member of one of our Conferences, was ordered placed in the Journal. His record follows: Oklahoma Conference on Trial, 1907. Ordained Deacon in 1909. At this time left without appointment to attend school. In 1911 transferred to Southwest Kansas. Entered M. E. South Conference in 1921 (fall). In 1922 (fall) entered the Gulf Conference.

Question 10 was called: "What members are in the studies of the Fourth year?"

Upon motion of H. K. Faulk, P. W. Beck was advanced to the studies of the Fourth Year and J. S. Denney was continued in the studies of the Fourth Year.

Question 6 was called: "Who have been continued on trial?"

Upon motion of H. K. Faulk, Alton Carrington and Daniel X. LaGrone were continued on trial in the studies of the second year.

Upon motion of H. K. Faulk, Henry Jongema, J. L. Irwin and E. W. Potts were continued on trial in the studies of the first year.

Upon motion of C. R. Robinson, the Conference asked that Henry Jongema and E. W. Potts be left without appointment to attend school.

Upon motion of C. R. Robinson, C. Ross Culpepper was placed in the studies of the second year.

Charles R. Oaten of the Board of Pensions and Relief, was introduced and addressed the Conference. He presented a check from the Board for \$874.48. The same was received and ordered placed with the Conference Board of Stewards.

Question of placing the interest of our invested fund with the principal was raised by C. L. Elliott and referred to the Conference Board of Stewards. Declared illegal.

Rev. J. T. Curry and Rev. T. N. Lowery, West Texas Conference, Methodist Church, South, were introduced.

Adjourned with benediction by President Flemming.

At the noon hour addresses were given by President Flemming and Charles R. Oaten. At the supper hour Bishop Nuelsen presided and addresses were given by Bishops Waldorf and Mead and F. W. Mueller.

THIRD DAY

Friday, December 3rd, 1926.

Conference was called to order at 9 o'clock by Bishop Waldorf. "I Love to Tell the Story" was sung. C. W. Rodgers led the responsive reading. The Bishop spoke on "Thankfulness—Holiness of God", after which a number spoke giving thoughts on "Thankfulness."

Journal of Thursday's session was read and approved.

The secretary read the proposition of the Southern Conference regarding the Preacher's Aid Fund and the recommendation of the special committee that: "Whereas the Southern Conference placed their total sum of over \$34,000.00 in the Preacher's Aid for proportionate care of all preachers regardless of former Conference membership, Therefore we recommend that the members of the Gulf and Southern Swedish Mission Conferences become members of the Preacher's Aid Society of the Southern Conference and pay a sum of one-half of one per cent of their cash support toward the Fund and contribute five dollars to the treasurer upon the death of a member and that the funds now in hand be consolidated with the funds of the Preacher's Aid Society of the Southern Conference."

Upon motion of H. C. Leonard, seconded by R. T. Pynes, the recommendation was unanimously adopted.

It was stated that membership in the Preacher's Aid Society required that each member give into its fund one-half of one per cent of cash support at Conference time and five dollars within thirty days after the death of a member. The exceeding generosity and good will of the Southern Conference made a splendid impression and the Gulf Conference felt that thanks were entirely inadequate to meet the proposition.

A tribute to F. J. Ensign written by J. W. Hervey was read by W. B. Van Valkenburgh.

The following were introduced and briefly addressed the Conference: W. C. Hanson, representing the Book Concern, Miss Eunice Britt, representing the W. H. M. S., and

Deaconess Board and Miss Ella Watson of the W. F. M. S.

President A. B. Chenier read the report of the Port Arthur College. The same was adopted.

Upon motion of W. R. Ward the Conference instructed the Secretary to cast the ballot for the confirmation and election of the following Trustees for Port Arthur College: H. K. Faulk, C. R. Robinson, G. M. King, Bishop E. L. Waldorf, F. E. Gifford, W. H. Smith, E. E. Hoffpauir. The secretary declared the instructions had been followed and the ballot had been cast and that all were duly confirmed and elected.

Mrs. Oveson, supply pastor at Elton was introduced.

Question 1 was called: "Is this Annual Conference incorporated according to the requirements of the Discipline?"

It was answered, "Yes in a limited way."

Question 5 was called: "Who have been received on Trial?"

Upon recommendation of the Committee on Conference Relations and the Board of Examiners and the motion of their respective District Superintendents, C. P. Hughes and Luther Lyons were admitted on trial and placed in the studies of the first year.

Question 25 was called: "Who are the Supernumerary Ministers?"

Upon recommendation of the committee on Conference Relations and the motion of W. B. Van Valkenburgh, B. B. Corbin was given the Supernumerary relation. With the same recommendation and upon motion of S. J. Manning, H. H. E. Pohl was granted the Supernumerary relation. Notice was also given that H. H. E. Pohl would be requested to locate in a year.

Question 26 was called: "Who are the Retired Ministers?"

Upon motion of R. L. Weldon, L. E. Gower was granted the Retired relation.

Question 16 was resumed and the Bishop announced the transfer of W. E. Blackstock to the New Mexico Mission Conference.

Question 26 was resumed and the following in the Retired relation had their characters passed and were continued in the Retired relation: G. L. Harper, J. W. Lively, F. W. Loy, T. J. Shrode, S. H. Yockey and W. T. Stokes.

Question 28 was called: "Who are the Triers of Appeals?"

Upon motion of C. W. Rodgers the following were made Triers of Appeals subject to confirmation by the merged Conferences: W. B. Van Valkenburgh, C. L. Elliott, W. L. Froehner, C. W. Schlechte, E. T. Hagberg; alternates: E. E. Schmidt, H. Sandstrom.

C. W. Rodgers read the report for the Evangeline College in which it was stated that the College had been merged with the Blinn Memorial College and all assets turned over to the same. The report was adopted.

The following were appointed a committee to liquidate additional debts of Evangeline College amounting to about \$800.00: P. W. Beck, Chairman, H. C. Leonard, Sec'y. and Treas., R. L. Weldon, W. R. Ward, H. K. Faulk, W. B. Van Valkenburgh and C. R. Robinson.

Adjourned with benediction by Bishop Mead.

At the noon hour announcement was made that the Journal would cost one-half of one per cent of the total cash support if all members of the Conference would meet the asking, that the secretary had been in the hole on the Journal ever since he had had the fun of it.

Dr. C. B. Spencer, Editor of the Central Christian Advocate, addressed the Conference.

FOURTH DAY

Saturday, December 4th, 1926.

The three Conferences, the Southern, the Gulf and the Southern Swedish Mission Conferences, convened in joint session at 9 o'clock with Bishop John L. Nuelsen presiding. Hymn "O for a Thousand Tongues" was sung. Bishop Waldorf talked on "We Shall Not All Sleep" or "Thrills."

Bishop Nuelsen declared the purpose of the meeting: that the Conferences met as a committee of the whole.

The secretary of each Conference called his roll and the members of each Conference were introduced.

Phil Deschner read the Journal of the Joint Commission on Merger.

Bishop Mead read the Declaration of Merger to be adopted by each Conference and signed by the presiding Bishops. (See Journal of afternoon session).

The same was unanimously adopted and referred to the individual Conferences for adoption.

It was recommended that the plan for pooling the travelling expenses be referred to the following committee: T. J. Shrode, A. D. Moehle and E. J. Anderson.

The Boards and Committees recommended by the Joint Cabinets were read by Phil Deschner and adopted. (See Boards and Committees).

Upon recommendation of the Joint Cabinet and Committee on Merger the Board of Bishops was requested to place the merged Conference in the Kansas City Area and that the Conference be not classed as a language Conference.

C. B. Spencer, Editor of the Central Christian Advocate, was introduced and addressed the Conferences.

Upon motion of M. M. Culpepper the Conferences approved the holding of a Summer School of Theology and referred the same to the Board of Examiners.

Bishop Waldorf upon the request of Bishop Nuelsen became at this time the presiding Bishop.

Upon invitation, Houston, Texas was selected as the place for holding the next Annual Conference.

The Preacher's Aid Society of the Southern Conference was endorsed. The following were introduced and briefly spoke: Miss Ella Watson, for the W. F. M. S., Miss Eunice Britt for the W. H. M. S., Charles R. Oaten for the Board

of Pensions and Relief, A. J. Loeppert for the Epworth League, J. A. Dickmann for the Board of Hospitals and Homes, R. V. Johnson for the Board of Temperance, Prohibition and Public Morals, and R. E. Gornall of the World Service Commission. Bishop Mead presiding.

M. H. Hopkins reported the Epworth League Institute at Brenham. The same was adopted and the following Board of Control was approved: H. C. Leonard, Manager, B. E. Breihan, Dean; H. K. Faulk, Registrar; A. S. Kattner, Prom. Sec.; A. Didzun, Book Std.; M. H. Hopkins, Life Work.

The League Institutes at Brenham and the Southern Swedish at Austin were approved.

A temporary committee consisting of W. R. Ward, C. W. Rodgers, O. Kattner, O. C. Raeke, F. L. Hagberg and Joseph Karling was appointed to confer with R. V. Johnson regarding the Prohibition Declamation Contests.

• Adjourned with benediction by Bishop Nuelsen.

Saturday Afternoon

The Gulf Conference convened at 2 o'clock with Bishop Waldorf presiding.

Journal of previous session was read and approved.

Question 31 was called: "What is the Statistical Report?"

The report of the Statistician was read by C. L. Elliott and referred to a special committee consisting of R. T. Pynes, L. E. Gower and H. K. Faulk—not because of any fault of the statistician, but because a number of charges had not been reported. (See reports).

Question 32 was called: "What is the Conference Treasurer's Report?"

The report of the treasurer was read by W. R. Ward and was adopted. (See Treasurer's report).

A special committee consisting of C. R. Robinson and H. C. Leonard was appointed to care for delayed statistics for the treasurer's report.

Question 33 was called: "(a) What is the aggregate of the Benevolent Collections ordered by the General Conference, as reported by the Conference Treasurer?" Answer, "\$10,069.00."

"(b) What is the aggregate of the Benevolent Collections ordered by the Annual Conference, as reported by the Conference Treasurer?" Answer "\$3,121.00."

Question 34 was called: "What are the claims on the Conference Funds?" For annuity distribution 230 years multiplied by the Disciplinary rate of \$18.00 per year, \$4,140; for necessitous distribution, \$1,000.00; total, \$5,140.00.

Question 35 was called: "(a) What has been received on these claims?" From the Book Concern, \$322.00; from Annual Conference Investments, \$74.48; from Chartered Fund, \$40.00; from Pastoral Charges, \$1,717.00; from Board of Pensions and Relief, \$800.00; from other sources, ; total, \$2,953.00.

L. E. Gower read the report for the Conference Board of Stewards. The same was adopted (See Report).

The Conference ordered that P. W. Beck and R. L. Weldon be a committee to confer with the Southern and Southern Swedish Mission Conferences to arrange for proper asking for the Conference Claimant's Fund.

Question 40 was called: "Where shall the next Conference be held?" Houston, Texas.

The Conference authorized the Bishop and Secretary to sign proper papers to validate the sale of the Vinton property. The same was thereupon done after the paper had been drawn up by C. W. Rodgers and R. T. Pynes.

P. W. Beck, W. B. Van Valkenburgh and L. E. Gower were appointed a special committee to confer with a committee from the Southern Conference to harmonize the reports of the assets of Evangeline College. The following report was brought in and adopted: "It is the sense of the joint committee raised in the Southern and Gulf Conferences for the purposes of appraising the liquidated assets of the Evangeline College which have been transferred to

the Blinn Memorial College that the following is a fair valuation and inventory of such assets:

Books, desks, maps.....	\$400.00
Chemicals and apparatus.....	100.00
Cash	387.50
Pledges	7404.41
 Total.....	 \$8292.91

An expense of \$1928.00 has been incurred in the above transfer. (Signed) P. W. Beck, L. E. Gower, W. B. Van Valkenburgh, F. H. Miller, E. F. Schuessler and W. C. J. Marquet."

On motion of R. L. Weldon the cash support of the District Superintendents was placed at \$2250.00 minimum.

All papers were ordered placed in the care of the secretary.

The Conference concurred with the plan of the Finance Committee of the Southern Conference to have special offering in the churches for traveling expenses to and from the Conferences. This would enable the aged and poorly paid preacher to attend.

The Secretary was authorized to edit the Journal and the same when published to be considered the official acts of the Conference.

Upon motion of H. C. Leonard the following resolution was adopted: Whereas the Gulf Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in obedience to the authority granted as stated in the Discipline of 1924, Paragraph 518, Sections 9 and 23, where the said Conference is to merge with the Southern Conference, therefore

Be it resolved that we, the Gulf Annual Conference, do hereby grant, transfer and convey all property, real, personal and mixed, of whatever kind and wherever situated, for the use of the Methodist Episcopal Church, including real estate and improvements, chattels and funds to the Southern Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church as constituted by the union or merger of the Gulf, Southern Swedish Mission and Southern Conferences, and

do hereby instruct and empower the Conference Board of Trustees of the Gulf Annual Conference to execute such and whatsoever papers as may be required, and that a committee of three be raised to carry out the provisions of this resolution and that the trustees of the several schools and organizations in the Conference are authorized to make such adjustments as necessary to become properly related to the Southern Conference.

The Bishop, in compliance with the above resolution, appointed as the special committee, H. C. Leonard, C. R. Robinson and M. M. Culpepper.

Upon motion of C. W. Rodgers the following *Declaration of Merger* was unanimously adopted:

In response to the request of the Gulf Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church as stated in the Gulf Annual Conference Journal, Edition 1923, page 24 as follows:

"Whereas, there could be marked economy in money and time and decidedly more influence and efficiency, therefore

We, the members of the Gulf Annual Conference do hereby memorialize the General Conference to enable the Gulf Annual Conference to unite with the Conference now known as the Southern German Conference."

The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church held in Springfield, Massachusetts, 1924, passed the enabling act recorded in the Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church Edition 1924, page 435, Par. 518, Sec. 9, as follows:

"Gulf Annual Conference and Southern Annual Conference during the next Quadrennium may unite under the name of the Southern Conference under the usual Disciplinary conditions," and the General Conference by enabling act recorded in the Discipline Edition 1924, page 437, Sec. 23: "Southern German Conference is hereby authorized to change the name to Southern Conference, the change to go into effect immediately and to appear in all printed reference to said Conference."

The Gulf Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church hereby agrees to unite on December 4th, 1926, with the Southern Annual Conference, and further agrees to and does hereby transfer, convey all property, real, personal and mixed of whatever kind and wherever situated for the use of the Methodist Episcopal Church to be held by the Southern Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Furthermore the members of the Gulf Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church agree to be and are hereby transferred into the Southern Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and also that all the rights and privileges of the members of the Gulf Annual Conference, together with all the rights and privileges of the widows and minor children of deceased members of the Gulf Annual Conference be transferred to and maintained by the Southern Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Also, under the privilege granted by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church held in Springfield, Massachusetts, in 1924, as stated on page 394, paragraph 511, Sec. 3 of the Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church Edition 1924, as follows:

"No division or absorption of Annual Conferences or Mission Conferences, or the organization of new Annual Conferences, out of territory already occupied by organized Conferences, shall be effected, until the General Conference shall have approved such division, absorption or organization; except in the case of Central Conferences and Central Mission Conferences as provided for in Paragraph 95, Sec. 2 (12) and 95A, Sec. 2 (10); and foreign language Conferences, Mission Conferences, Missions, Churches or Mission Centers in the United States, being merged with or transferred into English speaking or other Conferences."

The Southern Swedish Mission Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church does hereby agree and merge with the Southern Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church on December 4th, 1926, and further agrees to transfer and convey all property, real, personal and mixed of whatsoever

kind and wherever situated held by the Southern Swedish Mission Conference, to be held by the Southern Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Furthermore, it is agreed that all members of the Southern Swedish Mission Conference shall be hereby transferred to the Southern Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and that all rights and privileges of the members, together with all the rights and privileges of the widows and minor children of deceased Ministers of the Southern Swedish Mission Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church be transferred to, and maintained by, the Southern Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Now, therefore, we, John L. Nuelson, Ernest L. Waldorf and Charles L. Mead, do hereby declare that said union and merger is now effected, and that the provisions of this document shall become binding and effective with all obligations contained in the agreements as made by the various Commissions appointed by the several Conferences named therein to plan for said union and merger.

In pursuance of which we attach our signatures, and upon all the work of the Kingdom of Christ affected thereby we reverently invoke the blessing of Almighty God.

(Signed) JOHN L. NUELSEN,
President, Southern Annual Conference.
(Signed) ERNEST L. WALDORF,
President, Gulf Annual Conference.
(Signed) CHARLES L. MEAD,
President, Southern Swedish Mission Conference.

(Note—Signatures of the Bishops were attached December 5, 1926).

The Journal of the joint session held the morning of December 4th was adopted as a part of the record of the Conference.

The Cabinet of the merged Conference was empowered to appoint new Committees. (See committees).

Adjourned subject to the call of the Bishop. Prayer by F. V. Johnson.

At the supper hour Bishop John L. Nuelsen called the Conference to order. Bishop Waldorf stated World Service conditions. Bishop Mead made statement concerning Evangelism and Bishop Nuelsen regarding conditions in Europe. The Conference resolved to make an increase of ten per cent in World Service offerings and Church membership.

Each Conference under its own Bishop adopted the following items:

1st. That enough copies of each Journal be printed to supply each member of each Conference with a copy.

2nd. Ordered that all abandoned property be listed in its Journal. A committee, L. E. Gower and H. K. Faulk, was appointed to see that it was done for the Gulf Conference.

Sunday, December 5th, 1926

On Sunday morning in the Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church, Bishop Charles L. Mead preached from Hebrews 2:17, his subject being: "Christ, the Representative Redeemer."

In the afternoon, Bishop Waldorf gave a vivid account of his trip to the Conferences in Europe.

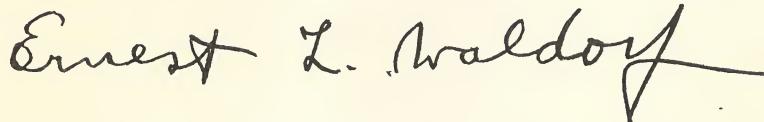
At 8:45 in the evening, Bishop Waldorf called the Conference to order. Bishop Mead read the transfer of the entire membership one by one of the Southern Swedish Mission Conference into the Southern Conference. They were welcomed one by one by Bishop Nuelsen. Bishop Waldorf then transferred the entire membership of the Gulf Conference one by one into the Southern Conference. They were welcomed one by one by Bishop Nuelsen.

Then representatives of each Conference, O. E. Olander, Phil Deschner and H. C. Leonard were called inside the altar while three little girls dressed in white carried up the aisle a wreath of white and gold flowers. This wreath was placed about the representatives of the Conferences by Bish-

ops Nuelson and Mead. Then all ministers joined hands and sang "Blest Be the Tie."

Brief addresses were given by each of the three representatives. Bishop Mead read the Declaration of Merger. This was unanimously adopted by the merged Conference and signed formally by each of the three Bishops. Prayer was made by J. A. Traeger.

The appointments (see appointments) were read by Bishop Mead and prayer was made by Bishop Mead.



Presiding Bishop.

I have carefully read the record of the proceedings of the Gulf Annual Conference from the proofs and do declare that this printed Journal is a correct record of the actions of the last session of the Gulf Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

HARRY C. LEONARD,
Secretary.

REPORTS

HOUSTON DISTRICT.

C. R. ROBINSON, *Superintendent.*

The work of the district has been without interruption by sickness or death among the workers. Only two Quarterly Conferences were missed by the Superintendent on account of sickness.

There is a marked change in the manner of serving the district now and five years ago. Then a number of the Charges could be reached only by wagon transportation over ungraded roads. Now graded and gravel roads are the rule. Then few of the preachers had cars; now, almost without exception the pastor drives his own car. While this has added much to the efficiency of the pastor, it has also increased his expenses and in too many cases there has not been increase of salary sufficient to cover the added burden. Mercantile firms furnish their men cars. Why should those representing the King's business be less favored?

Special meetings that resulted in the gathering of souls from the world were held at Deadwood and Bethel by pastor Laning; at Noonday and Wesley by pastor Hughes, and at Jefferson by pastor Baker, who was assisted by brother R. T. Pynes.

Last Conference Carl Fromen was appointed to Hughes Springs, but failed to go to his appointment, but the Charge has been most acceptably filled by Doctor C. M. Hollett of the Ohio Conference.

Noonday and Wesley, left to be supplied, have been served efficiently by C. P. Hughes and wife, both graduates of Wilmore College and native Texans. Rockhill has been supplied by R. T. Pynes who also took Sabine Circuit when E. McLain for the second time in two years became inoculated with the Oklahoma microbe, and left us. Brother Pynes has proved himself to be a man who can spread over much ground without becoming too thin to show. Clifford T. Nunn was unable to care for South Houston, so H. C.

Leonard, assisted by O. R. Fischer, has cared for the place.

E. N. Potts left Texas City to attend school, his place being taken by W. J. Bennington of the Colorado Conference.

W. E. Blackstock left San Antonio for health reasons, and M. M. Culpepper of the St. Louis Conference filled out the year.

In the early days of Methodism John Wesley said a Methodist preacher ought to be ashamed to want to stay longer than six months in a place. Many of our preachers are in this apostolic succession.

A new commodious parsonage has been built at Noon-day and paid for. Wesley Church on the same charge has been renovated at an expense of about six hundred dollars, all provided for. The pastor, C. P. Hughes, comes to us for admission on trial and has proved himself a worthy son of a Methodist itinerant. Blood will tell.

C. W. Mann has built a fine parsonage at Ford on the Lufkin Charge. His work this year would read like a romance.

An outstanding work has been done at Collins Memorial, Houston, where the illy located property in the middle of a block has been sold and a new location bought on a commanding corner which gives the Church a property with twenty rooms at an expense of only about four thousand dollars, which is being rapidly paid. Leonard's people believe in his leadership and have asked for his return for another year.

The debt on Trnity, San Antonio, has been decreased by two thousand dollars, and much needed repairs made on the parsonage.

Pearland has installed a new light system, painted the Church and laid a new walk in front of their property.

Jefferson Church has been much improved by a liberal use of paint.

The capacity of Deadwood Church has been much increased and a community hall with acetyline lighting system for the whole plant has been paid for.

A parsonage debt of long standing was paid at Marshall.
The parsonage lot at Woodville was cleared of debt.

On November sixth the superintendent dedicated the new Church at Hopewell free from debt, thanks to the financial leadership of pastor Laning.

At the beginning of the year La Porte joined a federation of four churches in La Porte and while the church is largely lost to us for the present, the community is more cheaply served while the larger interests of the Kingdom suffer.

The Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Societies show an healthy advance. Until the slump in cotton struck us, indications were favorable for an increase in World Service, but now we will do well to hold our own.

The Epworth League Institute held at Brenham was a marked success under the leadership of Brother Breihan. Plans are laid for a much larger work next year. It is already proven that in union there is strength.

Grateful for the fellowship I have had with my brothers and with my Lord, this report is respectfully submitted.

C. R. ROBINSON.

LAKE CHARLES DISTRICT.

W. B. VAN VALKENBURGH, *Superintendent.*

Gentlemen:

When I came on the district last June, a year ago, I found the charges greatly disorganized, our people much discouraged, and many of them talking of looking elsewhere for pastoral supervision and leadership; at least one-half of the charges on the district had never seen the new District Superintendent, and now six months had elapsed, the churches of other denominations were freely and openly bidding for our people, and many rumors were rife that we had abandoned the work. This hostile attitude and antagonistic sentiment had to be overcome, the lethargic and indifferent had to be spurred into new and active partici-

pation in a live and forward looking church program. In reciting the devious pathway along which the Gulf Conference has come since our Bishop Waldorf last presided, no report would be complete without a rehearsal of the conquests and defeats with which the men have been faced. The burning of the college building at Basile, La. left us no other courageous course open than a campaign to rebuild. This was duly undertaken under the guidance of Dr. Louis M. Potts. The goal was set for \$45,000.00, but the close of the campaign showed cash and pledges totaling \$50,000, and with 10 acres of ground and twenty thousand dollars more as a bonus to move the school to Opelousas. The Evangeline Preparatory School of Basile became the Evangeline College of Opelousas. But lo, months before the closing commencement exercises the word was heralded abroad that the school would be forced to close its doors. This announcement coming when, and as it did was most distressing, and in its effects most calamitous. Happily for all interested parties, our resident Bishop came to the rescue, the disaster was averted, a happy union was consummated; and Blinn Memorial College of Brenham, Texas, became the fortunate recipient of such collateral as could be salvaged. Rev. C. W. Rodgers deserves much credit for caring for this interest for the past five months.

ADVOCATES.

The Central Christian Advocate has a large place in the homes of our people and is to be greatly commended for the gifts and graces of its versatile editor, Dr. Claudius B. Spencer. One hundred and ninety-five new subscribers within the bounds of the Lake Charles District emphasizes the fact that with only 1941 members on the District we have secured our district quota of subscribers.

WORLD SERVICE.

Last year our receipts to World Service showed a marked gain of nearly one thousand dollars over the previous year; but more remarkable still is the apparent gain of the

current year: From October 1925 to October 31 of this year the bulletin just issued from our World Service office in Chicago shows a gain of \$1,442.00.

INSPIRATIONAL (GATHERINGS) ASSEMBLIES.

The Pastors and the District Superintendent held a very helpful and stimulating District Conference at De Quincy March 11 and 12. The ladies of the DeQuincy church entertained the visiting ministers free to them of any expense, and most royally. This was followed in the fall by the District Epworth League Institute, held in Welsh on September 10, 11, and 12. Here, too, we had a most successful and helpful institute. The young people of the District constituted the delegates, and the District Superintendent had here the most cordial and loyal support of pastor and young people of the Welsh church. Much praise might be well bestowed upon the committees here for most gratifying results.

Our Mission Boards will find as fertile and as responsive a field for Christian endeavor within the bounds of the Gulf Conference as in New England or elsewhere; and while we freely admit that frequent visits and constant watchcare of our connectional men in caring for and cultivating these other fields may yield adequate returns, yet we wish to record our firm and growing conviction that a like interest and care for the far-flung battle front scattered throughout the Southland, and especially within the bounds of the Gulf Conference will more than make adequate returns.

THE CHURCHES.

Auburn and Gloster: They have 15 new subscribers to the "Central" and have sent in \$19.00 for World Service. They have asked for the return of their pastor for another year.

Bayou Chene and Indian Village: Brother John A. Barbay of the village has built a new 5-room cottage house at a cost of \$1200.00 and offered the church the free use of this house if we would secure them a resident pastor,

and the village would give monthly an amount equal to the rental value of the house. A local preacher, Rev. M. E. Kingsland, from Grace Church, Fort Scott, Kans., was secured and placed in charge. At Bayou Chene, after carefully canvassing the field, have decided to rebuild, using all available materials from the old church, in the new building. Their plans call for a modern country church house of stucco finish. Eight hundred dollars have already been raised and placed on deposit in the Plaquemine bank. A donation of one thousand dollars from our board of Home Missions and Church Extension could hardly be better placed anywhere. Inaccessible to the outside world, hemmed in by a veritable network of bayous and lakes, they have nevertheless maintained the preaching services and Sunday School for the past thirty years. No high powered automobiles carry them to church, but instead everybody goes to church by boat. Six new subscribers to the "Central" keep them informed as to what our church is doing elsewhere. They have requested the return of their pastor for the coming year.

Elton: This church, always loyal, will bring up a good report. 11 new subscribers to the "Central", a fine bunch of young people, and a good Epworth League. A memorial gift to renovate and repair the church building from our board of Church Extension would greatly hearten the church and would add a new laurel to the towns-people's interest in our church and its work. Mrs. Ruth Warren Oveson, from Osage City, Kans., was secured to fill out the year, after Rev. Luther Lyons accepted the invitation of the Kinder church to become their pastor.

Ebenezer: Has had a good year, they have a good Sunday School, a fine Epworth League, and gave \$46.00 to World Service and added 12 new names as subscribers to the "Central." Rev. W. C. Roberts, a local preacher, served them well for the year, but asks to be released at Conference time to return to his farm. They will want a resident pastor.

DeQuincy: Has had a most remarkably successful year under the leadership of Rev. R. L. Weldon. A Sunday School of 175 members is superintended by J. D. Hayes. Their missionary Easter offering was \$85.00. The School paid \$193.00 to World Service. A rousing, big and unanimous fourth quarterly conference vote was given by the church officials for the return of their pastor for another year.

Kinder: Stands at the cross-roads; it is a valuable outpost, and since the death of their pastor, Rev. F. J. Ensign, they have been most efficiently served by Rev. Luther Lyons; 10 new subscribers to the "Central" keep them abreast of the times. They have asked for their pastor's return for the coming year. \$25.00 was sent in to the World Service.

Iowa: At the death of their pastor, Rev. F. J. Ensign, the officials of the Iowa Church asked that Rev. S. H. Yockey be sent to supply out the conference year. This was done and so acceptably has he and sister Yockey wrought that \$139.00 will be remitted for World Service, 7 new subscribers secured to the "Central", and most remarkable of all, \$2300.00 has been raised and placed in the Calcasieu National Bank towards a new church building. Brother A. K. Davis deserves great credit for this happy consummation. A most worthy allotment from our board of Home Missions and Church Extension would be a donation of \$1,000.00. Needless to say the Iowa people are expecting the Bishop to return Brother Yockey for another year.

Jennings: Has hardly held its own. Some day a new church spirit will urge our Jennings church into its rightful place. 15 new subscribers to the Central were secured by the pastor. \$275.00 raised for World Service. Rev. Chas. L. Elliott is the pastor. The return of the pastor for another year by the fourth quarterly conference has been requested of the Bishop.

Loranger: Is most acceptably served by Rev. J. L. Irvin. Six new subscribers to the "Central", and eight World

Service News subscribers were secured; \$100.00 paid to Wold Service.

Weaver and Shamrock: R. G. Swanson is the pastor here; 18 new subscribers to the Central were secured and \$73.00 sent in for World Service. They have a good Epworth League, and a fine Sunday School.

Sweet Lake and Gueydan: The Sweet Lake Church has finally settled upon a church site agreeable to all, and they have determined to build. \$1,000.00 in good subscriptions have been secured but they will need outside assistance before their dreams come true. Our board of Home Missions and Church Extension can well afford to investigate and to invest in this most loyal group of church people. Gueydan has long been served by the same pastor and both churches are unanimous and insistent that their pastor be returned to them for the coming year. Rev. Wm. B. Hebert is their pastor. He has 9 new subscribers to the Central and \$200. for World Service; also 12 subscribers to the World Service News. In a most difficult field and under the most trying circumstances our brother has wrenched victory from seeming defeat.

Lutcher: Just a brief summary of work accomplished here will help one to realize the caliber of minister and people: Ministerial support is in full: Pastor \$1080. (cash); D. S. \$120.00; Conference Claimants, \$96.00; Bishops, \$15.00; General Conference, \$9.00; Printing Minutes, \$6.00. The benevolences are as follows: World Service, \$210.00. To the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, \$148.00; the Ladies Aid raised \$150.00; full members 28; and nine subscribers to the "Central." Rev. T. J. Shrode is the beloved pastor, and needless to say unanimous request for his return is emphasized by the declaration of his people that no one else can take his place.

Quitman: Here we have a small but growing congregation of most loyal, and delightfully hospitable people who believe in the church and her mission of healing and salvation. They have been served at some disadvantage as the pastor, Rev. D. X. LaGrone, has been forced by cir-

cumstances to live elsewhere. They greatly need and desire the personal supervision of a resident pastor.

Church of the Redeemer (First Italian of N. O.): Here is a most difficult and trying situation. For a number of years our Italian church has had the loyal support and co-operative efforts of the Woman's Home Missionary Society in its work. The community settlement house, owned and financed by these delectable ladies had increased its staff of workers, and its annual budget until it had five paid workers—the Superintendent of the Home, the Boys work director, the visiting nurse, the Superintendent and one assistant of Kindergarten. The annual allowance constituted a budget of five thousand dollars. Suddenly and without any previous notice or warning of any kind to our church authorities, these good sisters decided to close up the work, dismiss their staff of workers, and sell their property, the community settlement house. This was done, and last July the work ceased. To try to tell here the baneful results of such precipitate and unheralded a course of action could not adequately be done. Italian mothers who long had been used to coming here with their small children were denied admittance, all privileges were suddenly cut off, and these mothers were turned elsewhere for assistance and friendly advice. I am only saying that such action by any connectional board should be carefully safeguarded and well advised. Brother Palmisano has gone forward the balance of the year very much handicapped. He stands well with the Italian people of his city, and should be returned unless the Bishop has a younger man to place in his field.

Welsh: This church is preeminently the premier church of the Lake Charles District, if not of the Gulf Conference. We now have twenty-eight Centrals. There are three subscriptions to the Epworth Herald. The World Service News comes into about seventy-five homes. We have among our membership and constituency thirty young men and women attending school outside of Welsh. The Epworth League sponsored and carried the burden of a Dis-

trict Institute, the first ever held in this District in its history. It was a pronounced success. The young people's societies of the church have been active throughout the year and it is not hard to see an increased interest among the whole church in young people's work. The total cash giving for the year to all causes will approximate \$17,359. or a per capita giving of \$60.00. The Rev. Percy W. Beck, the pastor, has won a place of highest esteem within our midst. Brother Beck was kept out of the work for seven weeks by typhoid fever. The officiary of his church gladly and courageously shouldered the burden of financing this case, placing a day and night nurse in the parsonage home to care for their minister; but they also saw that the pulpit was regularly supplied.

Lake Charles: Rev. Haughton K. Faulk is just closing up his second year's work in splendid shape. He is respected by the townspeople, and loved by his people. During these two years the church has had a substantial and steady growth. Twenty-one Central Christian Advocates are taken; the Ladies' Aid has raised and disbursed \$505.00; a men's club, so organized as to assemble every Sunday morning to study together the word of God greatly strengthens the pastor's hands. Mr. Geo. M. King is the president of this fine organization, and S. O. Scoggins the vice-president. They meet monthly in the parish house and enjoy together a supper, and have some notable speaker deliver the address of the evening.

The fourth quarterly conference requests our resident Bishop to reappoint Rev. Haughton K. Faulk as pastor of Simpson Methodist Episcopal Church for another year.

THE HEALTH OF THE MEN AND THEIR FAMILIES.

In August for four weeks brother and sister Cassells were constant attendants at the bedside of their little daughter, 8 years of age, who was committed to a specialist of bone diseases in the Natchez Sanitarium. She hovered near the borderland for days and nights, but is now home fully on the road to recovery.

On July 20th, the Rev. Frank J. Ensign, after a long hard struggle, and five months' absence from his pulpits, passed on to the Glory Land. Brother Ensign was an honored member of the Gulf Conference and for sixteen years valiantly served the Christ he loved on the charges of this Conference. "Servant of God well done; rest from thy loved employ."

The District Superintendent has issued an appeal which was sent out to the members of Conference for funds to help liquidate an outstanding mortgage of \$500.00 on the home left in Jennings to the wife and children. In response to this appeal I have received \$147.00 which is now in a Lake Charles Bank subject to the order of the Conference Board of Stewards.

On Sunday morning, October 31st, while I was away from home, at Bayou Chene, the aged mother on her way to the Simpson Church, fell and broke her right arm. She has since been in the Sanitarium, with day and night nurses in constant attendance. For days she suffered excruciating pain and no one was allowed to see her or enter her room but the doctor and nurses. Thanks to our Heavenly Father, she now seems safely on the road to recovery; and while still with two nurses in attendance, the outlook is more hopeful.

The hearty support and co-operation of my brethren have made all good things possible on the Lake Charles District; and with a new sense of appreciation for the work in which we are all engaged, and a new vision of possible achievements ahead, I thank God and take courage.

W.M. B. VAN VALKENBURGH, *District Supt.*

RIO GRANDE VALLEY DISTRICT.

S. J. MANNING, *District Superintendent.*

To Bishop Waldorf and the Brethren:

I rejoice in the privilege of meeting here, with the ministers of the Rio Grande Valley District, to give an account of our "Stewardship." We have not accomplished all we hoped for, but we have done our best.

HEALTH.

Dr. and Mrs. Gower suffered a nervous breakdown a few months after they returned from Conference.

Sister Gower was first taken sick. She was in bed for several months. The strain of caring for her, and trying to answer the call of the demands of the Charge, Brother Gower's nerves also gave away. He should have taken his bed but he did not. His members at Sebastian most graciously came to their rescue. The doctors, after several months, succeeded in restoring their health sufficiently for them to resume their pastoral duties the last few weeks of the year. During this time Dr. Gower solicited and collected money enough to put up a building, 28x38, and conducted a revival meeting, closing Nov. 28th.

But there was another upon the District who has become the closest friend I ever knew, of whom it is my duty to speak. This friend, after $3\frac{1}{2}$ years in a very difficult field, also had a nervous breakdown. After she had been in bed for six weeks, she got up and went into Oklahoma and Kansas on a vacation. The continuous care of a physician, who is a specialist, made possible a very much improved condition and her presence at this Conference. I refer to the patient Mrs. Manning.

CHANGES.

There has not been a change in the District during the year. Lyford was left to be supplied, but Lyford was without services only for a few services. Rev. Harry Peacock was secured early in the year, to serve the charge. Rev. Peacock comes to us from Haverland, Kansas. He has served this work most satisfactorily.

EVANGELISM.

We have had good revivals over the District. There were a number of conversions, but the main work was done in the church.

IMPROVEMENTS.

Rev. Harry Peacock, at Lyford, seated the church or place of worship, at the cost of \$350.00.

Dr. Gower, at Sebastian, has put up a building, 28x38 costing \$1100.00. This splendid piece of work is a showing of the ability of the pastor to solve a real problem.

RETROSPECT.

The year has passed. We have not asked for the task to be easy. The problems have been weighty. Some of them have been insurmountable. But a kind Providence has led us all the way. A good spirit pervades the District with the pastors and the people. We all speak together: we wish we could have done more. But under existing conditions, we did our best. Our highest ambitions are to see that valley of pleasures become a valley for God.

PROSPECT.

We face difficult problems. New towns are springing up in many sections of the country. New railroads are coming in. Pleasure resorts are going in everywhere, seeking to overrun religion and the sacredness of Sunday. With shortage of preachers, with shortage of money, with the hardest crop year in the Valley for years, we realize that we have a man's job. Some have done double duty. Some have worked overtime. None have received extra pay. But I am glad to say it has all been done without a word of complaining. But this cloud has a most beautiful lining: Boys and girls have been converted; parents have been made happy; pastor and people have rejoiced together in the good work of the Master's Kingdom. In the very near tomorrow, we visualize the Valley giving in returns, 30, 60 and 100 fold. We do not care for an easier job, but we do pray for the men and money, that the field demands, if the harvest is cared for.

We believe that the church must put on a program that will keep pace with other developments, if we take our place in the Valley as we should.

Sincerely submitted,

S. J. MANNING, *District Supt.*

PORt ARTHUR COLLEGE.

Port Arthur, Texas, December 1, 1926.

To the Annual Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church,
San Antonio, Texas.

Gentlemen:

A copy of our annual report to the Board of Trustees, together with the Auditor's statement of the financial condition of Port Arthur College are on file with your Board of Education at New York City. Our annual report to the Board of Education has also been made.

We will in a brief way give to you a summary of the progress and activities of Port Arthur College since the meeting of your conference last year.

Our enrollment for this year to date is an even 300. This is a considerable increase over that of last year.

Our student body represents the highest type of intelligence—practically all being high school graduates. This is not true of other business colleges.

As a result of catering only to the better class of young people, our discipline has been the very best. The girls in the Dormitory have been lady-like in every respect. We feel that we should be proud of the personnel of our student body as a whole.

Our Faculty consists of teachers who are doing excellent work. This has been demonstrated by the success of our graduates. Our teachers are always working for the very best interest of the school, putting forth every effort to make a greater and better Port Arthur College. The organization as a whole is working in perfect harmony.

During the year we have added to our curriculum a course of Radio-Wireless Telegraphy. Port Arthur College is a logical home of such a department. This has been thoroughly demonstrated by the rapid growth of the department. Although it has only been in existence four months, we now have an enrollment of 27 students for this one department. This department will show a very rapid increase within the next few months. We now have an equipment in the department valued at approximately \$2,000.00.

We have also added a course of Business Administration & Finance. This course is proving very popular with young men and women who desire to prepare themselves for the better positions. This department has the endorsement of many Certified Public Accountants and we feel assured that it will serve the demand for young men and young women who are better prepared for this class of work.

In addition to having met all of our necessary expenses, we have cleared and paid in full all accounts against the school. Our annual report May 31, 1926 showed improvements to the amount of \$2,358.00 on buildings and grounds. Since that time we have placed a new roof on the dormitory at the cost of \$1,600.00. Other repairs and replacements amount to approximately \$1,000.00, making a total of more than \$6,000.00 spent for repairs, replacements and improvements within the last twelve months.

We are very optimistic as to our future enrollment and we see nothing but success in store for the institution in 1927.

The following were elected Trustees of Port Arthur College at the annual meeting held June 5, 1926, subject to confirmation at the Gulf Conference to be held December 1 at Austin, Texas:

H. K. Faulk	F. E. Gifford
C. R. Robinson	W. H. Smith
G. M. King	E. E. Hoffpauir
Bishop E. L. Waldorf	

In conclusion, we wish to thank the Board of Trustees, Board of Education and your Conference for co-operation during the year. With the continuation of this co-operation on the part of all concerned and with the proper management, nothing can keep Port Arthur College from becoming one of the largest institutions of its kind in the country.

Respectfully submitted,

A. B. CHENIER,
President, Port Arthur College.

THE FINANCE COMMISSION.

The Finance Commission met in the parlor of Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church, December 4th, 1926.

John Hierholzter was elected president, H. K. Faulk, secretary, and A. A. Leifeste, treasurer.

Upon proper motion and action the support of the District Superintendents was set at \$2250.00 minimum each.

Upon proper motion and action ten per cent of the cash support of the pastors including house rent was fixed as the rate for raising this amount.

The treasurer was authorized to pay the support of the District Superintendents monthly.

H. K. FAULK, Secretary.

BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION.

The Board of Home Missions and Church Extension of the Southern Conference was called together with Rev. E. F. Schuessler temporary chairman and R. L. Weldon, secretary pro tem.

On motion of Rev. A. A. Leifeste the following named members were elected as officers for the ensuing year: Rev. E. F. Schuessler, Pres.; Rev. H. C. Leonard, Sec'y.; E. C. Willard, Treas.

At the suggestion of Rev. Dr. F. W. Mueller of Philadelphia, who was present and advising with the Board, it was voted by the Board to authorize the president and secretary to sign all applications to the parent board for help that come to them through the regular process, duly filled out and endorsed.

Adjourned to meet at the call of the president.

Addresses: Rev. E. F. Schuessler,
Box 636, Seguin, Texas.

Rev. H. C. Leonard,
1009 Harvard St. Houston, Tex.
E. C. Willard, Welsh, La.
R. L. WELDON, Sec'y. Pro Tem.

WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETIES.

The Woman's Foreign Missionary Societies are working unitedly but retaining the same officers they had last year until next fall, when one set of officers will be elected to preside over the new Conference. Until then the following are secretaries and treasurers of the same territory they had last year:

Mrs. O. W. Johnson, Manor, Texas.
Mrs. Sam J. Blumburg, Seguin, Texas.
Mrs. E. A. Briggle, San Antonio, Texas.

We wish to thank our pastors and all those who had a part in making last year a most successful year.

WOMAN'S HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Our motto: "America for Christ."

We need the co-operation of every church in our Conference to further this work. Our aims for this year are as follows: A society in every charge; a two per cent net gain in membership both for our Women's and Young People's organizations; a birthday offering as a "Love Gift" from every member; a gift for the "Permanent Missionary Fund" from every Society; a stewardship secretary keeping the tither's roll in "The Book of Gold"; also one-twelfth of all the yearly pledge paid monthly to the Conference W. H. M. S. treasurer.

The following are the officers for the new Southern Conference:

First Vice-President—Mrs. E. C. Willard, Welsh, La.
Secretary and Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. H. C. Leonard, 1009 Harvard St., Houston, Texas.
Treasurer—Mrs. Harry Meyers, 8026 Cohn St., New Orleans, La.
Young People's Secretary—Miss Leona Corey, Welsh, La.
Children's Secretary—Mrs. H. W. Bahler, 506 Montana St., San Antonio, Texas.

Supply Secretary—Mrs. S. J. Manning, Marshall,
Texas.

Birthday Secretary—Mrs. C. S. Racey, San Antonio,
Texas.

Stewardship Secretary—Mrs. A. A. Leifeste, 1039
E. Eleventh St., Houston, Texas.

Mite Box Secretary—Mrs. O. Sampson, 221 G. St.,
San Antonio, Texas.

The Evangeline Home for Girls at Welsh, La., within
the bounds of the Conference, is one of the good works
supported by the W. H. M. S.

Note—The separate conference treasurers will continue
as at present until the close of the W. H. M. S. fiscal year,
June 30th, after which the treasurer of our merged con-
ference will assume her duties.

May God lead us in a life of service.

REPORT OF BOARD OF STEWARDS

From Permanent Fund.....	\$ 74.48
From Methodist Book Concern.....	322.00
From Chartered Fund.....	40.00
From Board of Pensions and Relief.....	800.00
From Conference Collections.....	1717.00
 Total.....	 \$2953.48

DISBURSEMENTS.

L. E. Gower	(31)	\$ 310.00
G. L. Harper	(5)	140.00
J. W. Lively	(13)	230.00
F. W. Loy	(42)	420.00
T. J. Shrode	(26)	260.00
W. T. Stokes	(27)	270.00
S. H. Yockey	(18)	180.00
Belle Chaney		60.00
Mrs. E. A. Ferguson	(2)	55.00
Mrs. N. H. Oliver	(23)	270.00
Mrs. N. L. Sayers	(8)	60.00
Mrs. F. D. Van Valkenburgh	(12)	150.00
Mrs. J. Woodson	(9)	170.00
Mrs. W. F. Hamner	(3)	25.00
Mrs. F. J. Ensign	(16)	263.00
Ensign children		90.00
 Total.....		 2953.00
 Balance on hand.....		 \$.48

Numbers in brackets represent years of service.

Board recommends that \$3369.00 be apportioned to the charges this year for this fund.

The Permanent Fund is now in the hands of the Board of Pensions and Relief.

R. L. WELDON, *President.*

P. W. BECK, *Secretary & Treasurer.*

RESOLUTIONS.

We, the members of the Gulf Conference, deeply appreciate the splendid welcome that we have found in Trinity Church and in the homes of San Antonio. Brother Culpepper and his company of loyal men and women have provided for our creature comforts in the most careful and complete way.

We commend the local press—The Express, the News and the Light—for the full and accurate reports of the Conference.

We have been favored by the presence of C. R. Oaten, C. B. Spencer, T. E. Gornall, A. J. Loeppert, W. B. Flemming and Miss Watson and Miss Britt, who through their messages have given both inspiration and vision.

The presence of our chief pastors, Bishops Nuelsen, Waldorf and Mead, with their kind co-operation and wise guidance in the consummation of the union of these three Conferences enables us now to build with united heart and hand. With deep gratitude we have listened to these leaders and pledge our allegiance and loyalty in exalting our Christ and His Church.

W. R. WARD,
H. C. LEONARD.

PLAN OF CONFERENCE EXAMINATIONS

CONFERENCE STUDIES FOR TRAVELING PREACHERS As Prescribed by the Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church, 1924, Appendix, ¶ 620

§1. DIRECTIONS FOR STUDENTS AND EXAMINERS.

Special attention is called to the "Directions and Helps" as listed in the Course of Study for Traveling Preachers. For each subject in these courses there is a separate pamphlet giving the student the necessary directions for his work and help in his study. They indicate also the written work which must be done in connection with each subject, including the "Collateral Reading and Study." This written work is a part of the required course equally with any of the books to be studied. These pamphlets are bound together in one volume for each year listed as the "Directions and Helps." This volume is to be ordered by the student from the Book Concern with his other books.

Conference examiners must have these "Directions and Helps" in order to carry on their work. At the beginning of each quadrennium a set of these is furnished to each registrar for free distribution to the examiners. It is the duty of the registrar to forward to each examiner the pamphlets which bear upon the books assigned to the latter. If extra supplies are needed later, they must be purchased by the Conference Board from the Book Concern. The Commission does not handle the Directions and Helps. An "Examiner's Handbook" containing explanations and suggestions for examiners will also be furnished free to each examiner. The new edition for the quadrennium will be distributed through the registrars as soon as issued.

§2. EXAMINATION FOR ADMISSION ON TRIAL.

1. Doctrines and Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church for 1924, with special Reference to the Articles of Religion. (For a good commentary on these, see Wheeler, Twenty-five Articles of Religion of the Methodist Episcopal Church).....
M. M. Culpepper
2. American History. James and Sanford.....F. A. Lunberg
3. Life of John Wesley. Winchester.....O. W. Johnson
4. (a) Plain Account of Christian Perfection. Wesley.....A. D. Moehle
(b) Selections from the Writings of John Wesley (new edition). Welch.....A. D. Moehle

5. A Bible Biography. The candidate shall be prepared to write a paper of not less than one thousand words upon one of the following subjects, using only the materials found in the Bible: The Life of Moses, the Life of David, the Life of Jesus as recorded by Mark, the Life of Paul as given in Acts. The subject to be written upon will be assigned at the time of the examination..... H. K. Faulk

6. A written sermon..... W. R. Ward

7. Directions and Helps for the Examination for Admission (see under §1)

All papers submitted by the candidate shall be examined with reference to the use of English and the character of this work shall be taken into account in determining the grade in each subject; this rule shall apply throughout the course.

§3. COURSE OF STUDY FOR FIRST YEAR.

1. New Testament History. Rall..... Phil Deschner

2. Evangelism. Hannan..... F. L. Hagberg

3. The Work of Preaching. Hoyt..... C. W. Rodgers

4. The Art of Writing English. Brown & Barnes...B. E. Breihan

5. Human Behavior. Colvin & Bagley..... J. F. Sarner

6. Directions and Helps for the First Year (see under §1)

Collateral Reading and Study..... A. A. Leifeste

1. Jesus in the Experience of Men. Glover.
2. The Pastor-Preacher. Quayle.
3. Citizenship and Moral Reform. Langdale.
4. Steps in the Development of American Democracy. McLaughlin.
5. Francis Asbury. Tipple.
6. Wesley's Sermons. (Vol. I.) Cloth.
7. Special Homiletical Work (see Homiletical Directions in Directions and Helps).

§4. COURSE OF STUDY FOR SECOND YEAR.

1. Dictionary of the Bible (One Vol. Edition). Hastings..... B. E. Breihan

2. History of the Christian Church. Walker (omitting pages 1-41)..... H. K. Faulk

3. (a) The Pupil and the Teacher. Weigle.
 (b) The Graded Sunday School in Principle and Practice. Meyer..... F. A. Lundberg

4. The Pastoral Office. Beebe..... W. R. Ward

5. Directions and Helps for the Second Year (see under §1).

Collateral Reading and Study.....A. D. Moehle

1. The Christian View of the Old Testament. Eiselen.
2. The Organization and Administration of Religious Education. Stout.
3. (a) The Church in the City. Leete.
(b) The Rural Church Serving the Community. Earp.
4. History of Methodism (Vol. I). Stevens.
5. Life of Luther. McGiffert.
6. Wesley's Sermons. (Vol. II.) Cloth.
7. Special Homiletical Work (see Homiletical Directions in Directions and Helps).

§5. COURSE OF STUDY FOR THIRD YEAR.

1. Beacon Lights of Prophecy. Knudson.....O. W. Johnson
2. Foundations of Christian Belief. Strickland...C. W. Rodgers
3. The Church and Industrial Reconstruction. Federal Council of Churches.....A. A. Leifeste
4. Religions of Mankind. Soper.....M. M. Culpepper
5. Neely's Parliamentary Practice.....J. F. Sarner
6. Directions and Helps for the Third Year (see under §1).

Collateral Reading and Study.....F. L. Hagberg

1. Studies in Christianity. Bowne.
2. Jesus Christ and the Social Question. Peabody.
3. History of Methodism (Vol. II). Stevens.
4. Life of Phillips Brooks (briefer edition). Allen.
5. The Art of Preaching. Brown.
6. Modern Premillennialism and the Christian Hope. Rall.
7. The Methodist Review.
8. Special Homiletical Work (see Homiletical Directions in Directions and Helps).

§6. COURSE OF STUDY FOR FOURTH YEAR.

1. Paul and His Epistles. Hayes.....W. R. Ward
2. System of Christian Doctrine. Sheldon. (Except Part I and Appendix.....H. K. Faulk
3. Freedom and Christian Conduct. Haas.....M. M. Culpepper
4. The Book of Isaiah (Vol. I-II).—Expositor's Bible. Smith.C. W. Rodgers
5. Directions and Helps for the Fourth Year (see under §1).

Collateral Reading and Study.....A. A. Leifeste

1. James W. Bashford. Grose.
2. Outline of Christian Theology. Clarke.
3. Good Ministers of Jesus Christ. McDowell.
4. Church Cooperation in Community Life. Vogt.
5. History of Methodism (Vol. III). Stevens.
6. The Methodist Review.
7. Special Homiletical Work (see Homiletical Directions in Directions and Helps).

ROLL OF OUR HONORED DEAD

"They rest from their labors and
their works do follow them."

Members of the Conference

WALTER ZIMMERMAN

IRA N. PARDEE

P. C. CHANEY

WILLIAM F. BOLTON

JOHN T. JAMES

H. G. BREED

EDGAR A. FERGUSON

THOMAS WILSON

CYRUS A. KING

N. H. OLIVER

F. D. VAN VALKENBURGH

W. R. NEWTON

JULIAN WOODSON

N. L. SAYERS

W. F. HAMNER

F. J. ENSIGN

MEMOIR

FRANK J. ENSIGN

The intrinsic worth of a life lived in its right relationship to God and man cannot be measured by earthly standards. The Lord of all will reward his servants even as their faith has crystalized in holy living and useful purpose.

Frank J. Ensign was one whose transparent life, whole-souled devotion, and loyal consecration to his God-ordained task, was perhaps never fully appreciated, even by his brethren. He was a man of clean mind and pure heart. He could not do a mean thing. He would have died rather than take advantage of another. To stoop to anything low to him was unthinkable. I have been closely associated with him many years and I never heard him utter an unchaste word or give expression to an impure thought.

In business and social relations with him there was always just one way—the right way. He would rather suffer wrong than do wrong. To know him, to be intimately associated with him was to trust him implicitly and be trusted by him. He was not a demonstrative man, especially regarding himself, but his life, in every way, rang true. He loved the Church and all for which she stood. He was never so busy with his own interests, but what if there were a call to serve any interest of the Church or humanity, his own interests were laid aside and he threw himself unreservedly into the work of the Kingdom. He contended earnestly for fairness, cleanliness, scrupulous honesty. If he took issue and made a fight against anything he considered wrong in principle or tendency, he made his fight in the open. Every one knew where he stood.

We miss him at the annual conference sessions, on the Boards and Committees, in council meetings and all the activities of the church work. We feel that we can ill afford to lose him, yet we bow in submission to the will of God whom he served and whose wisdom he never questioned.

He first saw the light of day in New London, Wisconsin. When he was 28 years old he left his home and came to Texas in the year 1910. In that year he took work in the Gulf Conference and was assigned to La Porte, Texas, where he served three years, after which he was stationed at Lyford, Texas, filling out a term of three years, then back to La Porte once more for four years. DeQuincy came next in his service for the Methodist Church where he remained four years. Basile and Elton were next for one year, then came Jennings, La., remaining there three years, and last of all he started his pastorate at Kinder, La., with every prospect of a full time; but contracting a cold in the moving it developed into more serious trouble which, after months of patient suffering, caused his death.

"We live in deeds, not years, in thoughts, not breaths,
In feelings, not in figures on the dial,
We should count Time by heart-throbs, he most lives
Who thinks most, feels noblest, acts the best." (Philip Bailey).

R. L. WELDON.

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

GULF MISSION

Year	Time	Place	Bishop	Secretary
1893	Jan. 19	Jennings, La.....	E. C. Andrews..	C. K. Woodson
1894	Jan. 25	Lake Charles, La.....	J. M. Walden...	C. K. Woodson
1895	Jan. 24	Crowley, La.....	Thos. Bowman...	C. K. Woodson
1896	Jan. 23	Jennings, La.....	J. N. Fitzgerald.	C. K. Woodson

GULF MISSION CONFERENCE

Year	Time	Place	Bishop	Secretary
1897	Jan. 21	Jennings, La.....	J. M. Walden....	C. K. Woodson
1898	Feb. 3	Crowley, La.....	W. X. Ninde....	C. K. Woodson
1899	Feb. 2	Lake Charles, La.....	S. M. Merrill...	C. K. Woodson
1900	Feb. 1	Marshall, Tex.....	I. W. Joice....	L. W. Elkins
1901	Jan. 17	Jennings, La.....	H. W. Warren...	C. W. Campbell
1902	Jan. 30	Lake Charles, La.....	C. D. Foss....	C. W. Campbell
1903	Feb. 3	Port Arthur, Tex.....	W. F. Mallalieu.	C. C. Morris

GULF ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Year	Time	Place	Bishop	Secretary
1904	Feb. 4	Hughes Springs, Tex.....	W. F. Mallalieu.	J. Paul
1905	Feb. 2	Gloster, Miss.....	H. Spellmeyer...	F. F. Fitch
1905	Dec. 1	Welsh, La.....	L. B. Wilson....	W. E. Harrison
1906	Nov. 15	Marshall, Tex.....	L. B. Wilson....	J. R. Basket
1907	Dec. 16	Jennings, La.....	William Burt...	J. R. Basket
1908	Dec. 16	Lake Charles, La.....	W. A. Quayle...	J. R. Basket
1909	Dec. 16	Port Arthur, Tex.....	T. B. Neely....	J. R. Basket
1910	Dec. 15	Welsh, La.....	T. B. Neely....	H. H. McCain
1911	Dec. 15	Marshall, Tex.....	T. B. Neely....	H. H. McCain
1912	Dec. 19	Port Arthur, Tex.....	W. P. Thirkield.	H. H. McCain
1913	Dec. 4	Woodville, Tex.....	W. P. Thirkield.	H. H. McCain
1914	Dec. 2	Jennings, La.....	W. P. Thirkield.	J. R. Basket
1915	Dec. 7	Port Arthur, Tex.....	W. P. Thirkield.	J. R. Basket
1916	Dec. 7	DeRidder, La.....	W. O. Shepard..	J. W. Hervey
1917	Nov. 29	Hughes Springs, Tex.....	W. P. Thirkield.	J. W. Hervey
1918	Nov. 27	Houston, Tex.....	Chas. B. Mitchell	H. C. Leonard
1919	Nov. 26	Lake Charles, La.....	W. P. Thirkield.	H. C. Leonard
1920	Dec. 8	Houston, Tex.....	E. L. Waldorf...	H. C. Leonard
1921	Dec. 7	Port Arthur, Tex.....	E. L. Waldorf...	H. C. Leonard
1922	Dec. 13	San Antonio, Tex.....	E. L. Waldorf...	H. C. Leonard
1923	Dec. 12	Port Arthur, Tex.....	E. L. Waldorf...	H. C. Leonard
1924	Dec. 3	Welsh, La.....	E. L. Waldorf...	H. C. Leonard
1925	Dec. 2	Lake Charles, La.....	E. G. Richardson	H. C. Leonard
1926	Dec. 1	San Antonio, Tex.....	E. L. Waldorf...	H. C. Leonard

**STATISTICAL TABLES AND TREASURER'S
REPORT----GULF CONFERENCE----1926**

CHAS. L. ELLIOTT, Statistician
R. G. SWANSON, Assistant

SUNDAY SCHOOL STATISTICS, GULF CONFERENCE, 1926
HOUSTON DISTRICT

NAMES OF CHARGES
OR CHURCHES

	PUPILS ENROLLED												Enr. all depts. incl. Cde. Roll, Home Dept., Offs. Teachers & Pupils	Average Attendance	Pupils, inc. Home dept. who are Ch. Members or Prep. Members	Accessions to Church from Sunday School	Paid by Sunday School to World Service	Paid for Sunday School Supplies			
	Schools on Charge		S.S. using Gr. Lessons		Officers & Teachers		PUPILS ENROLLED														
	Grd. Roll		Beginners		Primary		Junior		Intermediate		Senior		Young People								
	Beginners	Primary	Junior	Intermediate	Senior	Young People	Adults	Home Dept.													
Alvin, Pearland & Arcadia.....	3	1	27	15	34	20	34	29	37	..	47	15	258	105	160	4	45	159			
Houston, Collins Memorial.....	1	1	59	43	64	43	103	73	41	60	70	12	568	220	174	28	330	829			
Deadwood and Bethel.....	3	..	14	..	..	19	40	28	70	30	42	..	243	119	..	20	..	70	
Hughes Springs.....	2	..	13	6	6	10	14	20	20	40	26	6	148	80	..	100	10	75			
Jefferson and Chappel Hill.....	1	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36	23	..	24	1	9
Lufkin.....	1	..	10	1	3	10	12	15	25	15	19	..	110	30	80	..	..	20	
Marshall.....	1	..	18	17	19	20	10	30	24	30	35	..	186	82	128	11	120	143			
Noonday and Wesley.....	2	2	13	..	18	16	11	9	11	20	28	..	113	90	97	..	..	32	
Polk Circuit.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Port Arthur.....	1	1	35	70	31	33	31	21	20	44	73	40	398	190	221	16	225	448			
Rock Hill.....	1	..	4	..	9	14	8	..	11	6	5	..	59	41	48	8	..	16			
Sabine Circuit.....	1	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	43	40	28	3	..	8
South Houston.....	1	1	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	37	25	15	126	..	53
San Antonio, Trinity.....	1	1	35	25	40	36	37	30	23	14	46	19	305	165	..	21	200	291			
Texas City.....	2	..	19	40	25	39	20	19	21	5	3	..	191	..	30	..	85	146			
Woodville.....	2	..	16	10	..	..	9	11	..	10	50	..	107	65	..	..	..	..
Waterman Circuit.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTALS.....	32	13	310	226	246	250	317	270	278	259	465	92	2691	1245	901	361	1016	2333			

LAKE CHARLES DISTRICT

Auburn and Gloster.....	2	..	5	..	..	16	10	15	14	15	16	36	..	45	40	..	..	12
Bayou Cheue and Indian Village.....	2	..	17	..	..	16	10	15	14	15	16	36	..	110	58	..	..	13
Elton.....	1	1	12	3	13	5	10	17	17	17	17	14	..	108	75	42	..	72
De Quincy.....	1	1	21	16	14	20	26	16	15	30	28	10	196	150	125	15	110	141
Ebenezer and Basile.....	1	..	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	83	40	..	..	38	35
Iowa.....	1	1	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	118	80	..	..	..	100
Jennings.....	1	1	17	17	10	11	9	21	20	20	34	22	181	95	83	11	22	166
Kinder and Raymond.....	1	1	10	12	14	4	6	10	8	9	6	..	79	32	..	..	..	75
Lake Charles.....	1	1	30	17	7	25	23	14	18	10	54	24	222	120	150	5	69	181
Loranger.....	1	1	20	21	5	9	12	5	10	4	30	8	127	65	60	..	30	98
Lutcher.....	1	..	7	4	1	3	8	5	6	6	16	..	60	20	43	6	160	55
New Orleans, First Italian.....	1	1	7	20	8	5	10	5	5	5	20	..	100	45	30	12	23	31
Weaver and Shamrock.....	2	..	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	135	70	..	..	..	12
Sweet Lake, Gueydan & Cameron.....	2	..	14	..	6	..	..	12	14	12	29	..	87	38	..	1	16	69
Welsh.....	1	1	38	43	15	28	42	26	..	..	137	22	371	..	..	..	100	423
Quitman.....	1	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	75	55	..	..	10	20
TOTALS.....	20	9	240	153	109	120	161	145	128	127	416	102	2099	983	533	50	642	1547

RIO GRANDE VALLEY DISTRICT

Lyford and Philagonia.....	1	1	8	..	2	5	5	6	5	10	25	2	68	27	3	..	17
Rangerville and Sebastian.....	1	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25	18	13	..	..
San Juan and South Point.....	1	1	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	118	65	..	..	103
Point Isabel.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTALS.....	3	2	26	..	2	5	5	6	5	10	25	2	211	110	26	..	120

EPWORTH LEAGUE STATISTICS, GULF CONFERENCE, 1926
HOUSTON DISTRICT

NAMES OF CHARGES OR CHURCHES	Senior League		Int. League		Junior League		Epworth Heralds Taken	Paid to Central Office	Paid to World Service
	Chapters	Members	Chapters	Members	Chapters	Members			
Alvin, Pearland & Arcadia.....	1	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Houston, Collins Memorial.....	1	26	1	46	1	24	10	...	...
Deadwood and Bethel.....	1	90	1	30	3	60	4	...	...
Hughes Springs.....	2	98	1	14	...	...	4	8	...
Jefferson and Chappel Hill.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lufkin.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Marshall.....	1	62	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Noonday and Wesley.....	2	82	...	...	...	...	2	...	40
Polk Circuit.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Port Arthur.....	1	27	1	11	1	10	10	...	25
Rock Hill.....	1	42	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sabine Circuit.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
South Houston.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
San Antonio, Trinity.....	1	17	1	30	...	...	9	...	...
Texas City.....	1	16	...	...	...	...	16	...	...
Woodville.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Waterman Circuit.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS.....	16	475	5	131	5	94	56	8	65

LAKE CHARLES DISTRICT

Auburn and Gloster.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bayou Chene and Indian Village.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Elton.....	1	23	...	...	1	12	10	...	11
De Quincy.....	1	39	...	...	1	50	10	...	34
Ebenezer and Basile.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iowa.....	...	...	...	...	1	27	...	...	...
Jennings.....	1	22	...	...	...	...	10	...	...
Kinder and Raymond.....	1	12	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Lake Charles.....	1	19	1	16	1	18	5	...	15
Loranger.....	1	19	1	12	...	...	4	...	...
Lutcher.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
New Orleans, First Italian.....	1	35	...	...	...	...	3	...	...
Weaver and Shamrock.....	1	37	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Sweet Lake, Gueydan & Cameron.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Welsh.....	1	30	1	23	...	...	3	...	35
Quitman.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS.....	9	236	3	51	4	107	47	...	110

RIO GRANDE VALLEY DISTRICT

Lyford and Philagonia.....	1	12	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Rangerville and Sebastian.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
San Juan and South Point.....	1	20	...	...	1	12	1	...	...
Point Isabel.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS.....	2	32	...	...	1	12	2	...	...

TREASURER'S REPORT, GULF CONFERENCE, 1926
HOUSTON DISTRICT

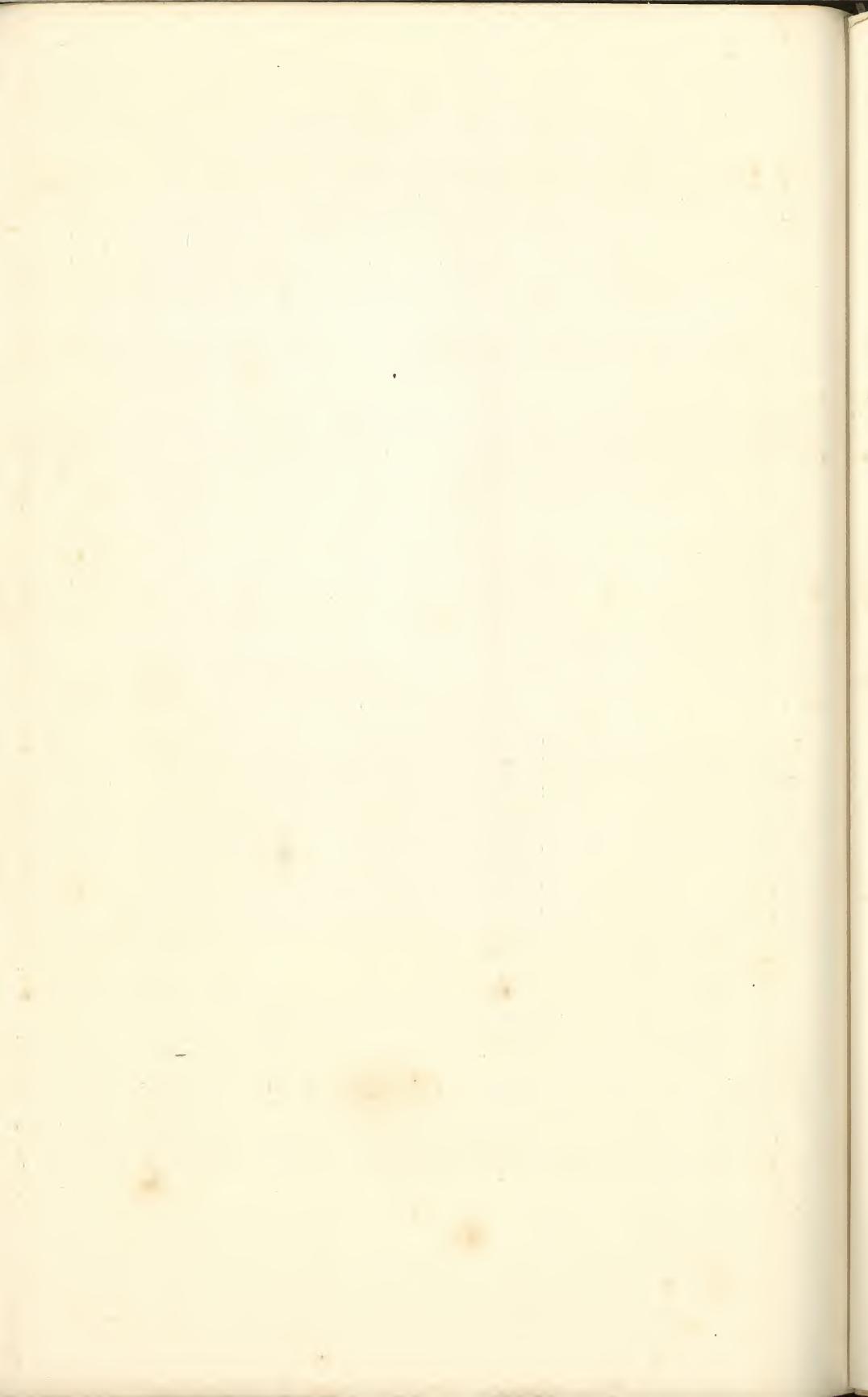
NAMES OF CHARGES OR CHURCHES	Disciplinary Benevolences						Benevolences		Other Cash Items			Grand Total incl. Discp. & Ann. Conf. Benevs. & Other Cash Items	
	World Service		Children's Day Fund		Woman's Foreign Missionary Society		Total Disciplinary Benevolences		Total Benevs. ordered by Annual Conference				
	On Apportionment	Specials; Annuities Legacies, etc.					Edic. Endowments, Bids, Special Gifts for use within Conference	Supp. Dist. Supt. incl. House rent & Ad- ministrative Exp.	Support of Bishops (Episcopal Fund)	Support of Conf. Claimants	General Conf. Exps.		
Alvin, Pearland & Arcadia.....	75	.....	23	23	121	5	5	90	11	25	.....	252
Houston, Collins Memorial.....	1469	18	300	110	1897	132	132	342	42	205	.....	2618
Deadwood and Bethel.....	13	.....	.....	.....	13	.....	.....	74	6	9	.....	102
Hughes Springs.....	75	.....	.....	.....	75	20	20	65	7	25	.....	192
Jefferson and Chappel Hill.....	37	.....	.....	.....	37	2	2	14	3	6	.....	62
Lufkin.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Marshall.....	250	.....	.....	.....	250	38	38	150	30	60	.....	528
Noonday and Wesley.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	97	13	29	.....	139
Polk Circuit.....	2	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	3	1	2	.....	8
Port Arthur.....	1000	25	171	225	1421	25	25	350	60	180	.....	2036
Rock Hill.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13	2	3	.....	18
Sabine Circuit.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	3	.....	63
South Houston.....	17	.....	34	8	59	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
San Antonio, Trinity.....	1013	.....	178	105	1296	.....	.....	310	43	124	8	1781
Texas City.....	85	5	109	.....	199	35	35	100	12	40	.....	386
Woodville.....	16	.....	.....	.....	16	.....	.....	85	14	28	.....	143
Waterman Circuit.....	.....	.....	38	.....	38	272	272	.....	.....	.....	.....	310
LaPorte.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
TOTALS.....	4052	48	853	471	5424	529	529	1693	245	739	8	8638

LAKE CHARLES DISTRICT

Auburn and Gloster.....	19	.....	.....	.....	19	.....	.....	16	2	8	.....	45
Bayou Chene and Indian Village.....	13	.....	.....	.....	13	.....	.....	25	4	10	15	52
De Quincy.....	411	17	50	30	508	146	146	270	37	135	15	1111	
Ebenezer and Basile.....	46	.....	.....	.....	46	165	165	26	4	7	3	251
Elton.....	50	10	.....	.....	60	25	25	70	14	35	5	209
Iowa.....	123	.....	2	.....	125	.....	.....	60	9	48	.....	242
Jennings.....	276	6	19	22	323	100	100	130	21	112	11	697	
Kinder and Raymond.....	45	.....	.....	.....	45	55	55	60	14	30	.....	204
Lake Charles.....	324	500	5	95	98	1022	622	622	300	67	135	5	2151
Loranger.....	100	14	.....	.....	114	.....	.....	40	5	33	.....	192
Lutcher.....	210	15	147	.....	372	.....	.....	120	15	96	9	612
New Orleans, First Italian.....	83	.....	.....	.....	83	.....	.....	60	10	.....	.....	153
Quitman.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	507
Sweet Lake, Gueydan & Cameron.....	96	8	.....	.....	104	260	260	75	10	54	4	197
Weaver and Shamrock.....	73	.....	.....	.....	73	.....	.....	69	10	45	.....	243
Welsh.....	1251	.....	120	228	1599	1202	1202	330	74	165	15	3385
TOTALS.....	3120	500	75	433	378	4506	2575	2575	1651	296	913	67	10008

RIO GRANDE VALLEY DISTRICT

Lyford and Philagonia.....	17	.....	.....	.....	17	.....	.....	44	5	22	.....	88
Point Isabel.....	25	.....	.....	.....	25	.....	.....	20	3	10	2	60
Rangerville and Sebastian.....	90	5	1	1	97	25	25	80	8	33	.....	243
San Juan and South Point.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
TOTALS.....	132	5	1	1	139	25	25	144	16	65	2	391



STATISTICAL REPORTS, GULF CONFERENCE, 1926

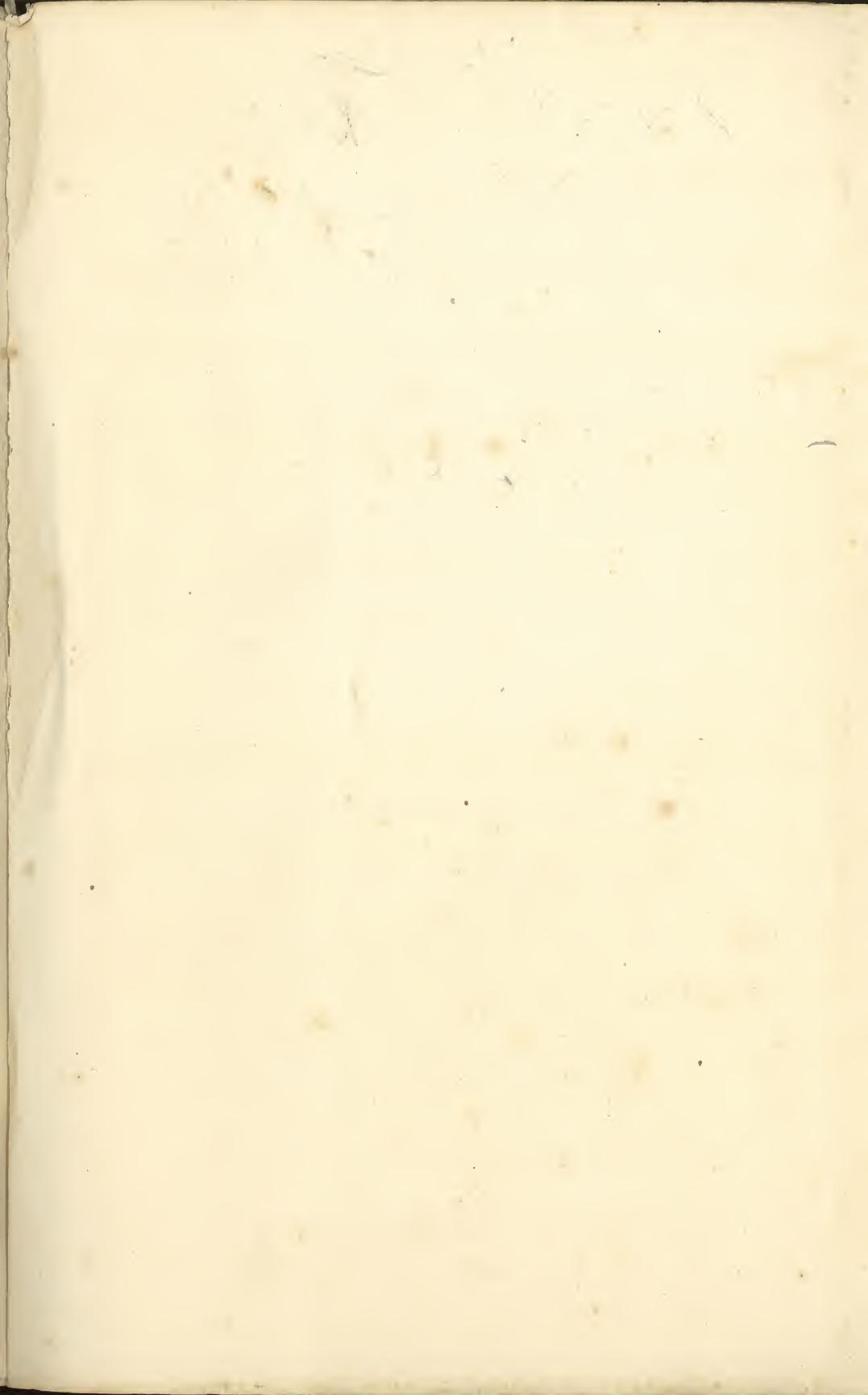
HOUSTON DISTRICT

Lake Charles District

STATISTICAL REPORTS, GULF CONFERENCE, 1926

RIO GRANDE VALLEY DISTRICT

RECAPITULATION



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Deaths During yr.

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